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☞ FOR TERMS, SEE LAST PAGE. ☜

RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS IN PRUSSIA IN THE PRESENT CENTURY.

FROM OUR GERMAN CORRESPONDENT.

(Continued from page 92.)

In 1840, the painter Becker, at Magdeburg, finished a picture representing a peasant woman kneeling before a figure of the Virgin Mary, and about the same time appeared from the press a poem, in which the main character introduced is a man who goes on a pilgrimage to some shrine to offer his prayers before a statue of the Saviour. A criticism upon these, the picture and the poem, came out soon after in the Magdeburgh Zeitung, written by Wilhelm Franz Sintenis, who, for seventeen years, had been pastor of the church of the Holy Ghost in that city, in which occasion is taken to characterize not only the worship of the Virgin, but also that of Jesus Christ, as superstition and idolatry, arguing that Christ himself teaches that to God alone is such honor due. This open attack upon the Divinity of the Saviour, and the fundamental principles of the evangelical church, by a preacher so long and so well known, raised at once an excitement. The preachers of the city ranged themselves some on one side, and some on the other. Among the most distinguished of those who came out in defence of the evangelical doctrines, were Kœmpfe, Reinhardt, and the Bishop Dræseeke, who himself had once been a rationalist, and had written much in defence of the rational doctrines. For a time every pulpit in the city resounded with controversial sermons, which had the usual result of effecting little more than to embitter the antagonists and their followers with each other. The matter was after a time brought before the Consistory. That body, after consultation, adopted a mild course, expostulated with Sintenis upon the error of his opinions, and gave him due notice that unless he repented and returned to the faith of the gospel, he must be proceeded against in due form for heresy, and dismissed from the station he had so long occupied. The Bishop (Dræsecke,) also sent for him to come and have a private conversation with him. Sintenis, in reply to the expostulations of the Bishop, remarked that "all which he had said the worthy ecclesiastic could read in his own works published twenty-five years before." "Ah, my dear brother," returned he, "I thank God that I have long since turned back from that false position!"

The Consistory farther forbid the publication of Sintenis' sermons, and warned him for the future to hold fast to symbolical books of the church, and the ecclesiastical acts of the Government. The accused found support and assistance from the city magistracy, who advised the Consistory to remember that a leading principle of the Reformation, and one for which the people of Magdeburg, two centuries before, had shed their blood, was freedom of religious opinion and the right of preaching and writing unimpeded upon religious topics. The Consistory simply replied, that with religious matters the magistrate had nothing whatever to do. The civil officer appealed to the minister Eschborn, who decided in favor of the Consistory, but forbid decidedly any farther controversial preaching.

Though this showed clearly enough that a change from the policy of the late king and his minister Altenstein had found place, still, those who had so long disbelieved in the evangelical doctrines, conceived that the time had come for freeing themselves from their connection with the established church. The movement was begun by the pastor of a church in Pœmmelte, in Prussian Saxony—a middle aged man named Ulich. It may be mentioned in passing, that in 1845 he was called from Pœmmelte to the charge of the Catherine church in Magdeburg, and that in 1848 he was elected a member first of the Prussian National Assembly, and afterward of that Second Chamber which was adjourned *sine die* by the bayonets of *Father* Wrangel's soldiers. He is a man, also, of irreproachable morals, and in his character is an honor to his profession. In the spring of 1841, Ulich made the arrangements, and issued a call for a meeting of the pastors of his vicinity of a Rationalistic tendency, at the small town of Gnadau. The meeting was held, but only sixteen persons joined in it. A second meeting was held in October at Halle, at which the number of clergymen and laymen together amounted to fifty-six. During the succeeding three years, the success of Ulich and his friends was astonishing. In 1844, assemblies of the people [Volksversammlungen,] were held successively in Gnadau, Schoenebeck, Dessau, Aschersleben, Koennern, Eisleben, Rathenow, Wittenberg, Frankfort on the Oder, Breslau, Hirschberg, Goerlity and Naumburg. Besides Ulich, the principal leaders in the movement were Rupp and Detroit in Koenigsberg, Balzer in Delitsch, and afterward in Nordhausen, Wislicenus in Halle, Tlecile and Fischer in Leipzic.

A word or two upon Rupp and Wislicenus, whose names are not probably unknown to many of our readers, may be in place.

Wislicenus was the son of a village pastor in the Province Saxony, and was born in 1803. He was left fatherless when he was quite young, and was indebted to the Counsellor Wachsmuth for his education, which he obtained at the Seminary in Merseberg, and the University at Halle. He was deeply engaged in one of the University tumults, which occurred so often some thirty years since in Germany, and for this, was sentenced, though so young, to twelve years' imprisonment. He was pardoned after our years of his sentence had expired, and he returned to Halle and completed his course of theological studies. He passed his examinations in 1830, and after a time was appointed to the New Market church in the city where he had studied. In consequence of a work published in 1845, he was ordered by the Government to Wittenberg, to meet and defend himself before a Committee of four of the most distinguished clergymen of the kingdom. Wislicenus excused himself from appearing, and was therefore ordered before the Consistory at Magdeburg. On the 5th of May, 1845, he appeared before that body, and in answer to their demands, rather coolly replied, that they would find his opinions in his book! Of course, the consistory could not do otherwise than dismiss him from his office. He, however, continued to preach, baptize and administer the Lord's Supper. As the laws are very strict against all who perform these spiritual functions without the proper authority from the civil powers, he rendered himself liable to a prosecution, which soon followed, and became again an inmate of a prison. The revolution in 1848 set him free.

Rupp was born in 1813, and after passing the usual examinations, was appointed garrison preacher at Koenigsberg, where he soon distinguished himself by his Rationalistic preaching; so much so indeed, that the officers complained of him as rendering the common soldiers insubordinate. The commanding General took the matter in hand, and wrote to Rupp to "stick closer to the Bible, that his business was simply to teach the soldiers to serve God and the king."

The preacher replied that it was not for him to take orders from a General how he should preach. The matter seems to have rested here; but after a time he wrote to the Consistory that he could not conscientiously preach those doctrines to which he had sworn on being inducted into the ministry, and begged to be excused from so doing. The answer was a dismissal. Many of the Koenigsberg people were unwilling to part with him, and thus arose "The Free Evangelical Society at Koenigsberg," of which Rupp is still pastor.

In September, 1846, Rupp was elected Deputy to the General Assembly of the "Gustav Adolph Verein," and the question at once arose, whether he, pastor of a free society, could be admitted to a seat. The first step on the part of the Assembly was to send him a request to resign, as his appearance would be the signal for great difficulties in that body. He refused. The question of his reception came up, and is important as shewing the strength of the two parties. The number of members present was 71, of whom 39 voted against him. The other 32, of whom Ulich was one, then separated from the Verein, and formed a new one. The ground of Rupp's rejection, and a very proper one, was, that he and his society had cast off the fundamental doctrines of that church, for the support and extension of which the society was formed.

This occurrence and the political troubles which so soon followed, enfeebled the society, to a great degree, for several years. The readers of the Watchman will, however, know that it has recovered its vigor and activity, as the meeting at Eisenach last September well proves.

To return. In 1845, Ulich published two works containing an exposition of his views; "The Protestant Friends; a Circular addressed to the Christians of the German People," and "The Creeds." They are of some importance in the history of the "Licht freunde" movement, as they serve for a commentary upon the declaration and creed adopted at the great Assembly which was held the same year.

The first meeting was called on the 15th of May at Coethen, and the call was responded to by more than 2000 persons. The proceedings are not of particular importance in this connection; but on the 30th of July, a second Convention, of more than 5000 persons, assembled. A regular Council was formed, and various resolutions were presented and passed respecting religious doctrines and forms of worship. The following are some of the conclusions to which the Assembly came, which we have drawn from a paper prepared by Ulich.

"1. The 'Protestantische Freunde' discard whatever tends to hinder the free development of Christianity. Christianity is *the* religion for the whole world and for all time; and as mankind becomes continually more enlightened, each succeeding generation is better able to comprehend the real spirit of the teachings of the Saviour. This Saviour, Christ, teaches of a Heavenly Father, whom we should worship in spirit and in truth; of love, purity of heart, and of a heavenly kingdom, in which man will eventually share both on earth and in eternity.

"No age, no race or family of man has a right to prescribe a form to this Christianity, and to say, by this shall all generations in the future be bound. Paul says, 'Stand fast, therefore, in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, and be not entangled again in the yoke of bondage.' [Gal. 5: 1.] Every Christian, then, has the right—it is his *duty*—to think for himself, to prove the traditions of the past, to search the Scriptures and to embrace Christianity in such form as agrees with his own convictions."

"2. The "Protestantische Freunde" [Protestant Friends, or Friends of Protestantism,] are laboring to the end that Christianity may at length in our time reach its real and true form and development.

"In Luther's catechism it is taught that Jesus Christ is really and truly God, and that man, as man, is a lost and damned being; that Christ arose from the dead and ascended bodily to heaven; that there will be a future resurrection of mankind in the flesh; that baptism works forgiveness of sins, and saves from death and the devil, and that we, at the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, receive the real body and blood of Christ to eat and to drink. Now, how many of our religious societies actually believe all this? What, then, is to be done? We must free ourselves from all this as our fathers freed themselves from heathenism, and after ward from Popery.

"It is the noble and beautiful task of the 'Protestantische Freunde' not only to separate from systems of Christianity whatever has no foundation in truth, but also to proclaim to the world what the truths of Christianity really are.

"Luther teaches, 'Man is by himself utterly bad, and forever damned; the punishment which he deserves, Christ took upon himself and atoned for on the cross; whoever properly and truly believes this, to him is the merit of Christ imputed, and declared by God to be a recompense—to him will God show mercy, and he shall share in the blessedness of eternity.' This doctrine falls at once if we hold fast to the thought—God is our *Father*—God is love! Time was when rude and uncultivated ages could picture to themselves eternal wraths on the part of the Deity, and eternal punishment for the sinner. But believe this—we cannot—we dare not!

"The death of Christ upon the cross is indeed the highest of all proofs of his love to mankind, the strongest testimony he could give of the truth of what he taught concerning the duty of men to love God and to love one another, and concerning the love of God for us. This is reasonable *and* Christian, for between reason and *real* Christianity there is no opposition."

The formal declaration and creed adopted and published by the Coethen Convention of "Freil Gemeinde" —Free Societies—were as follows:

"We, Protestantische Freunde, hold fast to the great reforming principle of Protestantism, which presupposes an ever progressive development. Christianity is to us *the* true and perfect religion, of which the fountain is the Bible. But the Bible is not to us a book of *absolute* authority, for this could only be in case every single particular in it had absolute truth.

"The Bible is not our unconditional rule of Christian knowledge and belief, moreover, since it itself points us to an ever-advancing spirit of holiness ruling over its words and the development of its meaning. But we honor, love and acknowledge the necessity of the Bible as the living witness of the first Christian faith and practice, and as the visible hand which, from the days of the first Christians until now, has been the foundation of every new development of Christianity, and will ever continue to be this, as well as the popular moral and religious book of Christians forever."

CREED.

"We believe in God, the Father of all mankind, who is a spirit, who is love, who is holy, almighty and all-wise, who created the world, and rules it with wisdom and justice. We believe on Jesus as the Son of man and of God, who was a perfect man, and hence, in the most intimate relation with God; and such ought we to be. From our hearts we acknowledge him as our Saviour—his instructions are the sum of all religious truth. He is our leader, our teacher, the example of our life, and thus is he our deliverer, from all unworthy and sinful bonds.

"Our deeds are all our own, and our will is free.

"The Holy Ghost is the influence which God exerts upon the soul of man. This influence will develope and render more clear that which Christ has taught us, but will add nothing new to it. The belief in a Triune God is superstition.

"Reward and punishment take place only through the joy or anguish of the conscience, there being no paradise and no hell.

"The Christian, through baptism, is admitted into the kingdom of God, and the Lord's Supper is the token of union in this kingdom—it renews the memory of Christ and strengthens brotherly love.

"The original herald of this heavenly kingdom is the Bible. The Old Testament is preparative, the writings of the apostles illustrative—the kernel, the substance of all, is the life with the teachings of Jesus.

"The Sabbath is a day set apart for edification and rest."

For the Watchman and Reflector.

MY AUNT ON THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE—A FRAGMENT.

"The spirit of the age"—said my aunt, raising her once bright eyes and fixing them earnestly on me, who had several times repeated the above thread-bare subject, in the course of some comments I was reading from one of our papers—"the spirit of the age; what kind of a spirit is that? I have heard of ardent spirit, of good spirits and bad spirits, of the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience; but I never heard of the spirit of the age, or at least I never could make out where it came from, or how people caught it, or knew it when it was caught. I always thought age had very little spirit in it, as I find alas in my own experience. But it may be this is some new spirit which folks have raised by their incantations and devil's work, as the witches were said to raise Satan himself by seething all sorts of queer and uncarthly things in a great pot over a fire made of the bones of the dead? And if this be the work that folks have been at for years, when they were compassing sea and land, to get all kinds of new, horrible and blasphemous notions, and setting them a simmering in young and empty heads, they will perhaps, find it harder to guide or lay the spirit they have raised than they bargained for. I remember, when but a lassie, what stories were told about the awful work the masons had with the lawless spirits they"——

Well, aunt, you are partly right. It will be found no easy matter to direct or lay the wild, reckless thing they call the spirit of the age. It will take more than holy water, or than bell, book and candle, to quiet it. Whoever, has raised this spirit, it is a mischievous, irreverent, lawless creature. It looks even upon the Bible as an antiquated tale, fit only for old people like you aunt.

"The graceless imp," indignantly broke in my aunt. It must be the same vile thing, which the apostle Paul called the Prince and Power of the air. What makes the new-fangled upstarts," continued she waxing still more warm, "try to cheat people by giving old things new names, as if the devil could not be known by any practised eye, under the best disguise he could invent, the foul thief."

But, said I, you have not yet heard the half of my answer to your question about this spirit. It has little respect for ancient authority or reverend experience. It looks upon the whole past, as the period of babyhood or childhood. It tells us that the holy martyrs were sincere, but weak men, that the Bible itself has outlived its day, that we may now expect richer spiritual freedom than it ever gave, more precious supports in times of affliction and trial, and more glorious rewards than it holds out to those who make it their guide and counsellor.

"Poor, short-sighted, blasphemous thing," muttered my aunt.

It tells us to expect the same kind and degree of progress in the discovery of new religious truths, which we find in the arts and sciences, and that, as we fly from place to place in a few hours, and send before us our orders on the wings of the lightning; so we may hope to have a kind of spiritual railroad to heaven, and a mesmeric telegraph to reveal to us veiled glories of the spiritual world. It sings forever "of a good good time coming," (but never of a good time *come*) when good and evil, virtue and vice, sweet and bitter, nay, even hatred and love, will be shown clearly to be the same things under different names. It makes hope every thing, and experience nothing. It speaks not of the past, but as of something which should be speedily forgotten, nor of the present but as of something which must be overturned from the foundation. It points ever to the future of *this life*, even, as the time when men are to live, do duty, and enjoy themselves. The blessings which it promises are always to come, and to come, and still to come. Like the god-defying criminal in the heathen's hell, the followers of this spirit are always *about* to quench their thirst but can never get the goblet to their lips, always about to get a cluster of delicious fruit, when some devil's magic blows it beyond their reach. This spirit being hollow and heartless, compels those who imbibe it, to seek enjoyment out of themselves, among the empty pageantries of the world. Its votaries must fly to shows, and concerts, and theatres, or some yet grosser kinds of excitements, else they will soon find the promised happiness of their guiding spirit, vanity and lies; even professing Christians it tempts to spend more on these vanities than they ever think of giving to the cause of God. It is a bustling, active, hurrying, changeable spirit, running here and there, condemning this, and supporting that, meddling with every thing, and disturbing every thing. It is dissatisfied with all that is, and yet is utterly unable to tell what should be—

"Stop I pray you, I want to hear no more about it," said my aunt, holding up her hand. "The devil may go to sleep and rest himself, for the spirit you have been talking about will do his work thoroughly for the next generation. Men have long been sowing the wind, and now they must just reap this whirlwind—this breath of the Prince and Power of the air. Woe is me! the serpent was the wisest beast when he was first created, but he has grown far wiser by his long experience in deceiving. The devil at first, only dared venture on tempting one poor, weak woman, and then he ventured only to try it through the bribe on which she had set her heart, small as the bribe was. But now he tempts whole armies of learned men, with mere wind as light as any that ever filled a balloon! O Alick! to their assembly be thou not united. See that you have something firm to stand on. Keep fast hold of the oracles of God. Stand firm on the everlasting Rock of ages, and be not blown about with every wind of doctrine. The truths which comforted, and supported inspired apostles and martyrs in all their trials and toils, are surely good enough for us. Believe me, said the old lady, with tears in her eyes, and her voice becoming exquisitely soft and touching, "it is a sad thing for one to be as old as I am, and to perceive a mist gathering thicker before his eyes every hour; to feel the earth as it were crumbling and settling away from beneath his feet at every step; to know that no created arm can help, and that the whole world with all its riches and pomps, can give him no more than a cold, dark, and lonely grave; to feel all this every day; and yet never to see his Father's hand stretched out from heaven to help him, nor any friend to support him through death's dark river, and introduce him to the home promised by the Bible beyond its turbid waters. This, this is sad. Then we need to hear the precious promise, 'Fear not for I am with thee.' Folks may not care for the solid hopes or promises of the Scriptures when in health, but they *always* need them when summoned on their long and lonely journey. I have known joy and grief, for more than threescore years and ten, and I am soon to know a yet greater change, but I never felt that the brightest visions of hope or of imagination, were of any real use in guiding or supporting me in life, and much less do I expect to be aided by them in the swellings of Jordan. Take you the experience of the great and good, in life and death, as one of your teachers, it will be found far safer than the spirit of the age;" and the old lady arose and moved slowly out of the room. A.

ORIENTAL CHRISTIANITY.

At the late meeting of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, held at Tremont Temple in this city, Rev. George W. Wood, of the mission to the Armenians at Constantinople, made an address, in which he unfolded the character of Oriental Christianity as exhibited in the Greek and Armenian churches. We quote from the report of the Congregationalist:

"He said no one acquainted with the character of Oriental Christianity could doubt the importance of effecting in it an evangelical reform and an infusion of spiritual life. For more than a thousand years has it existed in the presence of Mahommedanism, without producing the slightest impression on that marvellous system of mingled truth and error—the mightiest foe with which the gospel has to contend out of the pale of Christendom—yet which never could have stood unaffected in its long and close contact with the Christianity almost every where diffused in the midst of it, unless that Christianity had been as salt which had lost its savor. The Eastern Churches are venerable in age, compact, and as they boast, apostolic in organization, numerous in population, not wanting in wealth and the means of influence, and were once illustrious with the fruits of piety, and an ardent, effective zeal for the kingdom of Christ; but now, and for long ages, how fallen! They glory in the cross, and worship the material symbol, but the power of the cross has long since departed from among them. It is interesting, and it is instructive, to see how, by changing the religion of Christ into that of the priest, and the religion of the Spirit into that of the Ritual, all true spiritual life had become extinguished. Asceticism, we find; will-worship and a zeal for God, which will burn with the intensity of the flames of Nebuchadnezzar's furnace, abroad; a show of piety, the language of piety, the forms and profession of devotion, we see and hear every where; but the fruits of the work of the Holy Spirit, in the true regeneration of the heart, we do not find. The holiness of the system is the holiness of Hindooism, as it has been this evening described to you. Not only among the people, but also among the clergy, from the lowest of their numerous orders up to the patriarch, to look for truthfulness where interest may call for falsehood and deception, or for integrity where interest is to be promoted by disregard of it, would, with lamentably few exceptions, be esteemed a work of great simplicity. In all our intercourse, for more than twenty years, as missionaries with Armenians and Greeks, we have not met with more than one or two doubtful cases of individuals, unaffected by influences emanating from without their own church, of whom we could entertain a faint hope that they were spiritually renewed men.

All the characteristics of Oriental Christianity unmistakably mark it as a part of that predicted great apostacy, out of which the Man of Sin was to arise, as the eminent embodiment of anti-christ. Mr. Wood said the Greek Church far surpassed the other Eastern Churches in its magnifying of forms, and an exclusive spirit.

The Greek Church utterly repudiates the orders of the Anglican Church. The Armenian Church has also never committed itself as strongly against the use of the Bible by the laity, as have the Romish and Greek churches. While the clergy fear and would gladly shut out the light which exposes the errors and corruptions of their church, there is among the people, comparatively great reverence for the Word of God and readiness to receive its teachings. Darkened as are their minds by superstition and error, and fanatical in bigotry, as many of them are, they contrast very favorably with the Greeks. If in a company of Armenians the conversation is turned on spiritual and eternal things, it is almost certain that some one at least, and perhaps several, will listen with serious attention, and be affected by the things said; but in a similar company of Greeks, though they may talk volubly enough, there will generally be an utter absence of serious thought and feeling. Thoroughly worldly, too often grossly sensual, but energetic, quick-witted and keen, the Greek nourishes his native pride and hauteur from the past glory of his race; cherishes his intense bigotry, if he be not an infidel, by shouting hosannas to *the* orthodox and only true church, and dreams of the day when the hated Turk shall fall before him, and he shall reign in Constantinople. The political aspirations of the Greeks constitute a formidable obstacle to their reception of the gospel. Missionary labor, though it has yet brought forth but little visible fruit, has not, however, been all lost. Knowledge has been communicated—ideas have been introduced—convictions have been awakened, which will yet, we cannot doubt, work out valuable results.

For the Watchman and Reflector.

MINISTERIAL TACTICS.

FIRST PAPER.

To a Christian minister, the knowledge of human nature is of the highest importance. It preserves him from many mistakes, and suggests many modes of usefulness, and contributes alike to his happiness and success. The following facts, one only of which, in any form, has before appeared in print, will tend to illustrate our doctrine:

It is well known that when the late Rev. Rowland Hill, of London, commenced his ministry, some eighty years ago, there was in many parts of England a settled aversion to evangelical religion; so that, notwithstanding his position in life, and his eminent talents, he was not unfrequently the object of persecution. On one occasion he had intended to preach at a large seaport on the western coast; but a considerable number of sailors, under the influence of the ecclesiastical leaders of the district, assembled together, swearing that he should not preach. In the very height of their threatenings he arrived on the spot, and inquired, with all the apparent indifference of an entire stranger, what was the matter. He was informed that no preaching could be permitted, and that any attempt to introduce it would only call into use the bludgeons with which some hundreds of them were armed. "Well, well, gentlemen," said he with the most perfect good temper, "if you say there shall be no preaching, of course I shall submit to your wishes. I did not intend to say any thing to offend you, I only meant, if I had preached, to have said somewhat from [naming a text,] and then just to have remarked—." By this time his commanding person, gentlemanly address, and a voice combining music and power, had awed them into silence, and for three-quarters of an hour, or more, he went on to tell them what he would have said *if he had preached*, till his whole audience were in tears. We need only add that their prejudices were subdued; he preached again and again, and thus laid the foundation of a very large and prosperous church. How much better was this than either scolding them, or appealing to the arm of the law for protection.

At another time, while he was visiting his father and family at Hawkstone Hall, he was earnestly entreated to visit a neighboring town, where the small meeting-house had been closed by the hand of violence, and whose inhabitants were entirely without evangelical instruction. On his arrival, the house was crowded, chiefly with enemies to the gospel, and his friends entreated him not to preach, as among other plans the opposing party had obtained the presence of a most notorious prize-fighter, on purpose to annoy the preacher personally. But Rowland Hill was one of the last men in the world to flinch from an encounter like this. He declared that he would preach even though he died in the attempt; and having obtained an exact description of the person and dress of the prize-fighter, he made his way, unguarded and alone, to the pulpit. Looking around him from the pulpit, as he never failed to do, his eye caught the pugilist, when he very respectfully beckoned to him. The man, apparently full of fury, ascended the pulpit stairs, whom he told him that his name was Rowland Hill, that he was the son of Sir Richard Hill, of Hawkstone Park, and a clergyman, that he was come to the town to preach, and had been told that some had been intended to disturb him; that he had full confidence in his talents as a prize-fighter, and therefore put himself under his protection as a gentleman; that if any disturbance should arise, he should rely upon him to quell it; and at the close of the service he would be glad if he would accompany him in his carriage to dine at Hawkstone. The fury of the man was entirely subdued; he promised his best efforts to maintain quietness, which he actually did secure, and went away at the end of the service apparently ashamed that he had intended to interrupt so complete a gentleman in his wishes to do good. Did not this conduct show that Mr. Hill understood human nature?

About thirty years ago, died the Rev. John Palmer, for some thirty or forty years the successful pastor of the First Baptist church at Shrewsbury, England. Perhaps very few men ever more fully discharged the duties of an evangelist than did he. Very often would he make his appointments and have them published in North Wales, on the borders of which he resided, and leaving home on Monday morning, on his little Welsh pony, he would pass from place to place, returning on Saturday evening, having preached during his absence sixteen or eighteen sermons, to probably as many thousands of hearers. Into one locality, however, he was for many years unable to enter; the clergy had contrived to excite a most malignant prejudice against "John Palmer, the Baptist man at Shrewsbury," and the simple-hearted shepherds of the mountains were led to suppose that of all men he was one of the worst. Often did Palmer talk and pray over this spot; and at length determined, at whatever risk, to preach an out-of-door sermon there. It was a happy circumstance that he was personally known to one family only in the district, and he requested them to publish the time and place of his preaching, as well as to erect a temporary pulpit. The time came, and the shepherds and peasants assembled in many hundreds, armed with clubs and staves determined that "John Palmer, the Baptist man from Shrewsbury," should not preach there. The preacher was met by his friends on the road, who entreated him to return, as his life was in danger. He requested them immediately to take care of his horse and carriage, and to permit him to take his own course, only stipulating that when he appeared on the ground no one should seem to know him. In this manner, with a most commanding person, highly attractive manners, and dressed as a complete gentleman, he made his appearance, and began to inquire the cause of so large an assemblage of people. "Why, *sur*," said they, "John Palmer, the Baptist man from Shrewsbury, is coming here, and *says* he'll preach, but he *shanna*." "Oh, oh!" said Palmer, "*he's* coming is he?" "*Does* you know him *sur*?" "Know him, to be sure I do. I knew him forty years ago, when he was an apprentice to a doctor, and a strange sort of man he is too." He then went on, telling them tales about John Palmer and others, till they all surrounded him, and became most intensely interested in his graphic and forcible sketches.

Bye and bye the stranger asked, "But where's John Palmer that you said was coming to preach?" The answer was, he was not come and nobody knew why. "Well," said he, that's a pity too, that there should be no preaching; it will soon be dark." Well, would *he* preach? "Why," said he, "I shall be taken for John Palmer, and be insulted." Oh, no! they would guard him. He was at length prevailed on to ascend the pulpit, when he proposed, as after all, preaching was a solemn thing, they should take off their hats while he prayed; this concluded, he read his text, and for about an hour preached as few men preside himself could preach to such an audience. All for awhile was silent as the grave, weeping, groaning, jumping, and all the other signs by which the Welsh show deep, intense feeling, followed; in the midst of which the preacher said, "Now my lads, *I* am John Palmer, the Baptist man from Shrewsbury, what have you more to say to me?" "When will you come and preach again?" was the inquiry from all quarters. He often did preach there again, and that "not in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance;" nor was his ministry unattended with a blessing.

I had another fact or two, but I think they must form another paper. JOSEPHUS.

For the Watchman and Reflector.

"BUSY-BODIES IN OTHER MEN'S MATTERS."

This family has been perpetuated from the days of Paul to the present generation. We suspect that they might claim even a more ancient genealogy, but be is the first, so far as I have read, who speaks explicitly in relation to the tribe. And, unfortunately for the world, there seems no prospect of their speedy extirpation.

Their own affairs are too circumscribed for their expansive intellects, and they are perpetually elbowing for larger space into the domains of their neighbors. They are ambitious to know every thing, and are not scrupulous as to the means of acquiring knowledge. They peep into letters, and pump servants, listen under windows, and peer through gimlet holes. Their zeal in communicating is equal to their perseverance in acquiring knowledge. One of these fellows has often obtruded upon my retirement, and interrupted most important avocations, for the benevolent purpose of imparting some astonishing intelligence, which neither surprised, delighted nor profited me. And so wicked have I been as sometimes to wish him in one of the asteroids, with all communication between him and earth cut off.

He has advice for every body, under all circumstances, and an opinion about every thing. And he does not pause to be asked for either advice or opinion before he imparts it. It is always ready, lying right on the tip of his tongue. He can tell, with equal confidence in the infallibility of his own knowledge, how to raise revenue for the nation, and how to extract a troublesome bunion. He has twelve infallible cures for every cold, and fifteen for a tooth-ache. If the first should fail, the second or tenth will be sure: and if all should be unavailing, he volunteers to hunt up some additional remedies.

No one's business, but his own, escapes his attention, and he seems anxious to make every neighbor familiar with the details of every neighbor's affairs.

These busy-bodies in a church are very mischievous, with the best intentions; and often supply a severe, if not salutary discipline of the pastor's patience and gentleness. An infirmity or a fault in any member, must be very secretly concealed indeed to escape his quick eyes and long ears. And then before he can make up his mind how to deal with an offender of whose fault no one but himself has ever heard, he must consult with half the church in relation to it. His own officious intermeddling creates more difficulties than originate in any other source, and yet he weeps over himself as a martyr to his own faithfulness or kindness of heart if he is ever censured for his troublesome impertinence.

If I have used the pronoun masculine in this sketch, it is not that I mean to imply that the pronoun feminine might not sometimes be substituted. In the language of a quaint old writer, the busy-body "labors without thanks, talks without credit, lives without love, dies without tears, without pity, save that some say—'pity he died no sooner.'"

GLANNIS.

CIRCULATE THE BIBLE.

At the last anniversary of the Massachusetts Bible Society, Rev. Dr. Stow, of this city, in moving the acceptance of the report of the Executive Committee, made an address setting forth the claims of the Bible to a world-wide circulation. The following portion of the address presents this matter in an impressive manner:

We find in the Bible itself, in the nature of its contents, so rich, so varied, so comprehensive, valid reasons for its universal circulation. It is luminous with truth, important truth, which every human being needs to know, and knowing which, he may become wise unto salvation. It makes disclosures which can be derived from no other source. It tells of God what the physical universe, by whomsoever interrogated, never told, never can tell, and what was never deduced by any of the elaborations of reason, even German reason. It developes his character and the principles of his government, as they are nowhere else developed. "GOD IS LOVE,"—where but in the Bible do you find that proposition? Where but in the Bible do you find the facts that justify it, and the illustrations that explain it? This book reveals man to himself as nothing else reveals him; giving not all the possible, but all the needed, information respecting his position in the scale of being, his relations to the universe, his condition as a fallen creature, his moral necessities, his everlasting destiny. It gives a plain exhibition of moral evil, in its origin, nature, tendencies, and results. It represents the gracious dispositions and designs of God respecting apostate man, showing how he can forgive the guilty, and qualify the unholy for his presence in heaven. Human sin and human salvation are prominent themes, upon which it throws a flood of the most satisfactory light. It furnishes the one position,—the high, central standpoint, from which we may survey the Divine and the human, the past and the future, the temporal and the eternal. That stand-point is Calvary, where meet the lines of truth from an infinite circumference, and where the devout observer makes far-reaching discoveries, and studies, with facility and with wonder, the harmonies of that great system, which at every other point appears complicated and utterly unintelligible.

Now, sir, would it not be strange if we were not disposed to circulate a book that makes such revelations? Opening up to the human mind such a field of truth, and such truth, ought it not to be in the possession of every dweller upon the earth? Is it right for us in this land, which we proudly call "the asylum of the oppressed," and where we boast of "an open Bible and a free conscience," to withhold such a book from any class of our population? Is it right for the scarlet power that is enthroned on the Quirinal, to withhold it from two hundred millions of obsequious vassals? Is it right for the nations who have it, and know its worth, to withhold it from the nations whose uncounted myriads are groping their way through pagan gloom to a dark and dreaded future?

But this is not all. The Bible is eminently a book of morals. It teaches, not only truth, but duty. As it enlightens the understanding upon the most important questions, so it regulates the life by the Rule of Right. "I love," said a friend, twenty years since, "I love to hear Henry Ware preach; for he tells me how to live." The Bible directs us all, in every place, every condition, how to live so as to please God, do good, and be truly happy. Its precepts are indeed a lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path. Here are the clearest discriminations of right and wrong, and the weightiest inducements to the practice of the one, and the strongest dissuasives from the perpetration of the other. It is the monitor and the manual of a perfect morality; and it is adapted, with a wonderful amplitude and minuteness and flexibility, to all the possible exigencies of every child of Adam. And that the precepts may not be misapprehended, they are embodied in one faultless model; and that model is presented in the person of Him who knew no sin, and in whose mouth was no guile. How befitting, how desirable, then, that such a volume, the inspired text-book of moral science, the sure guide to moral practice, should be placed in the hands of all, that they may be instructed in their duty to God and to one another!

Were I to venture upon a description, even in outline, of its benign tendencies, I should transgress the proprieties of the occasion by unwarrantable prolixity. But I may, in a word, inquire, what, without the Bible, would be our condition? Let our own country be suddenly and completely deprived of the word of God, and of all its effects, personal, social, national. Let the sacred volume be blotted out of all the languages spoken in this broad republic; let all its truths be effaced from every memory, every book, every manuscript; let all its influences be withdrawn from our literature, our science, our arts, our legislation, our jurisprudence, our systems of education, our civil institutions, our habits of economic life. Take away all that it has done for woman, for children, for the domestic constitution in every department, for the sick, the aged, the poor, the sailor, the prisoner, the debtor, the creditor. Let not a remnant, not a trace, of Bible influence remain upon any portion of American matter, or American mind. What have we left? Where should we be? What should we be?

Sir, have you before you, in this thronged assembly, one who will not concede that the Bible is eminently the book for *man*? Does not man everywhere need it? Is it not adapted to the necessities of universal man? Is there one in the whole range of humanity, from the highest point of Saxon civilization to the lowest form of Australian debasement, who can so dispense with its light, its guidance, its consolations, as to be wise, safe, happy, without them? Is it not fitted to every gradation of mind in the scale of intelligence? By its simplicity, it is adjusted to the capacity of the child; by its profundity, it gives employment to the most gigantic intellect; or, as quaintly expressed by a writer of a former age, "It has shallows where the tenderest lamb may drink, and depths in which the elephant may swim." This book, coming with Heaven's own authority, disclosing such mighty truths, exhibiting such a code of morals, offering such a Saviour, presenting such prospects, has already accomplished much, and is destined to accomplish vastly more, for man. It is emphatically "the Word of Life." In its diffusion, then, are we not conferring upon our race the greatest possible good? Millions of our brethren are travelling with us to eternity, ignorant of their character and their destination. What boon can we bestow upon them like the book which brings "life and immortality to light," and securely leads in "the way everlasting?"

A DEATH-BED PREACHER.

There are many ways of preaching Christ's gospel without choosing a text, or standing in a pulpit. This glorious work is not restricted to any time, or place, or class of individuals. A Wilberforce could proclaim the gospel of love on the platform of Exeter Hall, or the floor of Parliament-House, though he never wore a surplice, and never had a prelate's ordaining hand upon his honored head. Thomas Cranfield preached to the boisterous rabble of Wapping, till, in their delight, they were ready to reward him with "three cheers" for his thrilling exhortation. Hannah More preached Christ in the drawing-room; and Elizabeth Fry in the prison-cell. Harlan Page scattering tracts through a city work-shop, Nettleton whispering his solemn words to weeping souls in an inquiry-meeting, the Dairyman's Daughter murmuring the name of Jesus with her faint dying voice, and the Shepherd of Salisbury Plain, leaning on his crook to talk about eternity to a passer-by, were all intensely earnest "preachers of righteousness." The church has had few more faithful preachers than Thomas Halyburton, and his most impressive discourses were delivered on a dying-bed. "This is the best pulpit," said he, "that ever I was in: I am laid on this bed for this very end, that I may commend my Lord."

The careful and erudite sermons that were prepared for the pulpit of Ceres and St. Andrews are now well nigh forgotten; but the savory discourses that fell from his lips during that last month of his holy life, will live, we trust, till the last saint shall go down to the dark river. Let him who would learn how the sting of death may be plucked away, and how (to use Halyburton's own phrase) "a frail mortal may shake hands with the king of terrors," let him read the closing chapters of that Memoir which the Free Church of Scotland has *republished for* the edification of her children. What a spirit must that man have possessed who could have recorded the death of a favorite son in such words as these!

"March 23, 1712. The Lord's day, a day to be remembered by me. Oh! my soul never forgot what this day I received. My soul had smiles that almost wasted nature. My kind colleague and I prayed alternately; Oh such a sweet day! About half an hour after the Sabbath, my child, after a sharp conflict, slept pleasantly in Jesus, to whom pleasantly he was so often given."

To his wife, who stood weeping by his bedside, he once said, "My sweetheart, see you there? I am more thine. I am the Lord's. On the day I took you by the hand, I wist not how I could ever get my heart off you again; but now I have got it done. Do not weep: you should rather rejoice. Rejoice with me, and let us exalt His name together. We shall be in the same family in heaven; but you must even stay a while behind, and take care of God's bairns." At another time he remarked to her, after a night of agonizing pain—"Jesus came to me in the third watch of the night, walking upon the waters and He said to me, 'I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, I have the keys of hell and of death,' and then he added, "He stilled the tempest in my soul and lo! there was a sweet calm!"

When the eighty-fourth Psalm had been sung for him, he said, "I always had a mis-tuned voice, but, when it was worst of all, a *melodious heart*; but shortly when I join the temple service above, there shall not be, world without end, one string of my affections out of tune." To his aged elder he remarked, "James, ye are an old man, and I am dying; yet the child is going to die an hundred years old. I am like a shock of corn fully ripe. I have ripened fast under the bright Sun of righteousness, and I have had brave showers!"

We have read of

to do it for you. Yes, in these innocent little whisters, you see a sort of picture of a large portion of the world—each one blowing his trumpet, engrossed with his own noise, and making as much of it as he can. Yet there is this difference—these little fellows blow in the exuberance of their joy—the larger ones, to call attention to themselves."

I have been revisiting the scenes of my youth and childhood. Whose heart does not throb with interest and pleasure, as his eye rests once more on the old familiar objects after a long separation from them? I stood the other day, with fishing rod in hand, on those very spots where some thirty years ago, I was the successful or the disappointed angler. There, just in that place yonder, what a glorious mess of perch I caught one day "lang syne," and there again, what a monstrous catfish made acquaintance with my hook, and what trouble I had with the hideous looking creature. It all seems but as yesterday, since I basked in the warm sunshine, on the banks of this river, and watched the ebb and flow of the tide, and wondered what could be the cause of it. I wander out in the old woods and sit down again under the trees that sheltered me from the summer's sun, "long, long ago," and recline once more by the brook's side, to whose murmurs I listened when a child, and in whose waters I played the livelong day. I recognize the remnants of those very works which it cost me so much time and toil to build. There, I had my little water-wheel, and there, my sluice and fall. The little stream has flowed on night and day, ever since, faithfully rendering its tiny tribute to the great ocean. As I look around me, I almost fancy the objects I behold, to be capable of feeling as I do. "You old oaks," I exclaim," you have been battling it, as well as myself, with life. You have seen sunshine and storm, as I have. You have been rocked by tempests, but it has only served to strike your roots deeper into the earth—not so, alas! with me. And you, of younger growth, I remember you well. We were young together—you were saplings when I was a child; I could have bent you as I would. Now, you are tall, and stately, and strong. Once, you bowed to the earth before every breeze; now, you can struggle with a whirlwind. Shall we grow old together? Shall I see you when time has silvered o'er my head, and will you fling your shadows over me then? I should like no place better for a grave, than in the midst of you. And others still; I miss your forms: I look around for you in vain; you are not here; the woodman's axe has been among you: and you have fallen before it. You are gone like other friends of early days. You have fulfilled your destiny. May I fulfil mine as well.

Farther up in the country, there is an old churchyard, in which many an hour of my childhood was passed, in poring over the old inscriptions, even then scarcely legible. I have visited it again, and one of the epitaphs which always struck me as not a little singular, I have selected for your perusal. I give it *verbatim et literatim*. It is a real curiosity.

> "Caspar Hough that is my name,
> Small Lots is my station,
> And Christ is my salvation,
> When I'm dead, and laid in grave,
> And all my bones are rotten,
> Then I leave for you to see
> To remember me
> That I may never be forgotten,
> When the bell begins to tole
> Then O Lord have mercy on my poor soul."

This is a queer medley for an orthodox Christian. The last two lines look like a belief in purgatory. Let us deal gently with it. Who knows what the author of this effusion might have accomplished, under different auspices? Some of Bunyan's first attempts at poetry, are strange looking affairs. No one can say, how much Gray may have owed to cultivation, and other favorable circumstances.

"Full many a gem," &c.—you know the rest. Last and not least, I have looked again upon the Falls of the Passaic. More than thirty years have gone, since I first saw their spray hung with rainbows, and heard their deep roar.

Once they were much resorted to by travellers, and considered as a great natural curiosity. They are now, a little behind the times, taller cataracts and sundry other curious things, having thrown them somewhat in the shade. Nevertheless, they are well worth a trip from New York to Paterson; the time is but an hour or even less. I would advise any of your readers who may have it in their power to do so, to pay them a visit. They will look upon scenery, which I can assure them, is not to be found every day, and which will live long in their memories. I was much interested in noticing in the huge chasm opening from the Falls, far out of the reach of any human hand, and nestling on the rough bosoms of those grand old rocks, several bunches of pinks. The contrast was so great. There they were smiling upon you, as if conscious of their security from your grasp, and as if proud of their grim and giant protectors. One could not help thinking, such is life. You do find flowers sometimes, in the most unlikely and unsightly spots. In the roughest places, and in the darkest hours, God will often throw out before you, something beautiful and cheering. So, too, when the waters are roaring and thundering in your ears, and the billows well nigh go over you, and the foam and spray are dashing around you, many a bow of promise arch itself over the troubled scene, and hang there, a pledge of the love and faithfulness of an overruling Providence. Yours, truly,

June, 1851. OLD JACOB.

Watchman & Reflector.

BOSTON, THURSDAY, JULY 3, 1851

"THE BIBLE ALONE!"

From several notices which have appeared in the English papers, we perceive that the friends of evangelical religion in the Church of England, are gradually concentrating their forces in definite plans of action for the purpose of church reform. One grand design which they have in view, is the alteration of the Prayer-Book, so as to exclude from it those elements of Popery which now mar its pages, and to render it more exactly conformable to the Word of God as the only standard of Christian faith. Lord Ashley is a prime leader in this movement. A metropolitan association has lately been organized to act in concert with kindred societies already formed in various sections of the country, and there is good reason to believe that there is nigh at hand some great change of sufficient moment to be reckoned as an historical era.

While these things are in progress, the Puseyites are daily manifesting their affinities with the Mother-Church," and are rallying their energies, for a desperate onset against "the Evangelicals." The signs of the times indicate that there are now gathering in England the elements of a religious excitement unparalled since the days of "the great Reformation," and that the same questions which then agitated Christendom are coming up afresh. But, thanks to God, they are coming up in a very different state of the world. The fires of Smithfield cannot now be kindled: the rack and the thumb-screw cannot now be used as means to enforce conviction; but the controversy must be determined by *moral* forces only, and the final issue will furnish a grand commentary on the saying that is written, "Thou hast magnified THY WORD above all thy name."

Nevertheless, while the contest waxes warm between traditionism on the one hand, and evangelical religion on the other, it is an interesting question, What relation does popular infidelity hold to the general progress of opinion? Infidelity has doffed its old garbs and titles, and now stands forth as the friend and champion of the masses, under the banner of Christian liberalism. It "lifts up an ensign to the people," and we see emblazoned on its waving folds, those taking words, "Social Reform." It openly professes to honor Christ and to hate the church. It wars against Popery and it scoffs at evangelical religion. It declares in the language of Rouge, that "if Roman Catholics have a Pope at Rome, the Protestants have made their Pope of a book, and that book is a dead letter." It affirms that the disciples of Jesus, have, hitherto, misunderstood him, that his kingdom is of this world; that Socialism is Christianity adapted to the times, creating all things new and aiming to produce on earth a heaven of peace and plenty. It is far mightier in Europe than in America; it is attracting multitudes to its camp; in view of the great moral battle of civilization, it deems itself "the immortal phalanx," and has been called by some intelligent writers, the great moving power of the European mind. What, we ask, is its real relation to Popery, to Christianity, to Society?

While this question lay before us, a few days ago, our eyes rested on a paragraph of HUGH MILLER, in his "First Impressions of England and its People"—just fresh from the press. He says, "That which, apart, from religious considerations, is chiefly to be censured and regretted, in the zeal of the Ronges, and Shenstones, Michelets, and Eugene Sues, is, not that it is inconsistent, but that it constitutes at best but a vacuum-creating power. It forms a void, where in the nature of things, no void can permanently exist, and which superstition is ever rushing in to fill; and so the progress of the race, wherever it is influentially operative, instead of being conducted onwards in its proper line of march, becomes a weary cycle, that ever returns upon itself. The human intellect, under its influence, seems as if drawn within the ceaselessly revolving eddies of a giddy maelstrom, or as if it had become obnoxious to the remarkable curse pronounced of old by the Psalmist: I quote from the version of Milton:

> "My God! oh, *make them as a wheel!*
> No quiet let them find,
> Giddy and restless let them reel
> Like stubble from the wind."

History is emphatic on the point. Nearly three centuries have elapsed since the revived Christianity of the Reformation, supplanted Roman Catholicism in Scotland. But there was no vacuum created; the space previously taken up in the popular mind by the abrogated superstition, was amply occupied by the resuscitated faith; and as a direct consequence, whatever reaction in favor of Popery may have taken place among the people, is of a purely political, not religious character. With Popery as a religion, the Presbyterian Scotch are as far from closing now as they ever were. But how entirely different has been the state of matters in France! There are men still living, who remember the death of Voltaire. In the course of a single lifetime, Popery has been twice pouplar and influential in that country, and twice has the vacuum-creating power, more than equally popular and influential for the time, closed chill and cold around it to induce its annihilation.

The literature of France, for the last half century, is curiously illustrative of this process of action and reaction—of condensation and expansion. It exhibits during that period, three distinct groups of authors. There is first, a group of vacuum-creators—a surviving remnant of the Encyclopedists of the previous half century—adequately represented by Condorcet and the Abbe Raynal; next appears a group of the reactionists, represented equally well by Chateaubriand and Lamartine; and then—for Popery has again become monstrous—we see a second group of vacuum-creators in the Eugene Sues and the Michelets, the most popular French writers of the present day. And thus must the cycle revolve, "unquiet and giddy as a wheel," until France shall find rest in the Christianity of the New Testament."

These apt remarks of the Scotch Geologist well illustrate the conservative power of a simple New Testament religion, and exhibit the truth and value of the great Protestant principle—"The Bible alone, the rule of our faith." They contain, moreover, although not so intended by him, a striking commentary on that remarkable promise which God sent from heaven to the church in Philadelphia by the mouth of the beloved apostle: "Because thou hast kept my word I also will keep thee." And so it was. The church of Philadelphia stood in the early ages like a column amid ruins. Here piety was fed at the fountain of pure truth, and this made her adequate to every emergency. In the Divine Word itself there is a mighty *conservative* power, of which, at the present day, Scotland presents a fine exemplification. In no country of the world, is Scriptural knowledge more widely diffused among the people, and therefore, while England is destined to reel under the shocks of Papal and anti-Papal excitement, Scotland will stand firm on the rocky grounds of her faith, and survey the troubled scene with the serenity of a sage and friendly observer.

Still further, the pithy passage which we have cited from Miller, suggests to us the momentous truth that the only safeguard for our liberties and our prosperity, in this country, is a thorough diffusion of Scriptural knowledge among all classes of the people. If our children grow up without being thoroughly "rooted and grounded" in a New Testament religion, a worldly scepticism will soon create that "vacuum" which Popery will be sure to fill. It is not enough that they be made familiar with creeds and catechisms; they must know those "Holy Scriptures" which speak as with the voice of God directly to the conscience. It is not enough that we give them an orthodox belief as a traditional heritage; we must aim at their conversion and seek that they be made "wise unto salvation." They can never become true "defenders of the faith" unless they have in the depths of the heart a vital faith to defend. Without this, a highly-educated man is too weak to cope with the wiles of Popery; with this, a little child becomes a moral giant in the cause of truth. The poor French blacking-vender, who held a New Testament in his hand and answered the threats of his priest by saying, "Sir, since I read this book, I have not dared to let a human being stand between God and my conscience," showed by that short sentence wherein it is that a Christian's strength really lieth. Could such a man renounce God's word as the rule of faith? Never. Would he add tradition to it? As soon would he think of adding a ray to the sun, or of helping it to shine by a wax candle. Could he give up a part of it? Not a jot, not a tittle, not a precept, not an ordinance, nor an instituted connection between one thing and another. He sees that this Word *is sufficient*; that it is tried like "gold seven times refined." Heaven and earth shall pass away, but this word shall endure, and the universe shall know that the least of its commandments" is linked to consequences that stretch through eternity.

OUR NATIONAL JUBILEE.

This is the week in which we celebrate the greatest political event of modern times, the birth of our republican institutions. The advocates of liberty throughout the world are looking at the probabilities of our success. There is a very large class both in England and on the continent, who are trembling-ly alive to all that concerns the fate of our government. An American citizen is to their view invested with an interest which attaches to the subjects of no monarchy in the world. They greet our travelling countrymen with cordial delight, as the representatives of that republican idea which they desire to have prevail throughout Europe. The devout portion of them pray earnestly that this Union may not be rent asunder, and that God may give wisdom to those who are concerned in settling our great political questions. Rev. C. G. Finney, who has spent much time abroad, remarked at the late Anti-slavery Anniversary in New York, that one who has felt deeply on this subject, said to him, "I regard the establishment of the American Union as the greatest event that has occurred since the invention of printing." This man spoke very feelingly of the danger that now threatens this country. He is one of a class that often express sorrow at our exciting discussions in Congress on the subject of slavery, and who fear that the result will be anarchy, bloodshed, and finally despotism, and thus destroy the hopes of the world. The gentleman to whom we refer above, thinks that if the prayers of the good people of England can avail, all the difficulties now existing in our country will result in good. There is not a doubt that the sympathies of the great mass of mankind are on the side of our success. The genius of crushed and enslaved humanity hails our rising republic as a star of hope, and blends its voice in the mighty chorus of our national jubilee.

Not only by the blood of our sires is our government consecrated, but by that of the martyred republicans of England of whose labors and sufferings it is an offshoot. The writings of Sydney, Vane, Russel, and their noble associates in the Commonwealth which perished under the hand of despotism and involved them in its ruin, developed the principles which are wrought into our Declaration of Independence, which animated the colonies of this country in the time of the revolution, and which are wrought into the fabric of our democratic institutions. These political martyrs of England enjoy with us a resurrection more resplendent than they could have anticipated. And if we do not fail, as we pray God we may not and fully believe we shall not, we shall in time throw back upon the Old World an influence to realize ere long the hopes of these suffering men in reference to the freedom and republicanism of the land which gave them birth.

But there is another class who are watching our haltings with eager expectancy. The monarchists are chuckling with the idea that our government will explode and that they will be able to say, "there, you can see how the American government has turned out with its democracy." Let Christians therefore come before the God of the nations of the earth to implore his continued protection, that with the din of our jubilations, there may be heard a still small voice, after the wind, the earthquake and the fire are passed, to insure the presence and protection of Almighty God to a government around which so many hopes cluster, and on whose success results so prodigious are depending.

THEOLOGICAL PHASES.

We have before referred to the truly fraternal and enlightened discussion of doctrinal topics, which has been going on, at intervals, between the Christian Register, the respectable Unitarian organ of this city, and the New York Independent. There is no little significancy, and much that indicates growing affinity in this discussion so far as it has reached. Other *indices* of a similar character are now and then seen, showing that the spirit of religious inquiry is abroad, and that the faith of "all who believe and call themselves Christians," is not settled and secure. The New York Christian Inquirer, a spirited and able Unitarian paper, in one of its late issues, gives marked prominence to the office work of the Holy Spirit. The language of the Inquirer *on this* point, does not embrace any technical or defined doctrinal statement. But it declares a belief in the Holy Spirit in a manner that evinces faith in his distinct personality, and utters the language of confession for having underrated his benign work while led away by philosophy, "so called." Grateful as is such an expression from such a quarter, we hardly know how much real importance should be attached to it. For, in the Inquirer of the following week, is an article headed "Princeton and Andover," in which a style of cavalier and laughing comment is indulged on the diversities of these two schools of theology. The article has the merit of keen satire, but is written in a similar spirit and from a similar stand-point with those of the Romanist when he deals blows at Protestantism. The pages of the Inquirer have not been strangers to this description of writing before. It contrasts, strangely in our mind, with another class of articles in the same paper, such as the one to which we first alluded. In one number of this journal we have met with an expression most grateful to the mind, whether regarded from a doctrinal or devotional point of view. Another number confronts us with an utterance grievously at issue with all this. From such incongruity of tone and statement, we hardly know what to infer. Our contemporaries in all this, clearly indicate that they are not wholly settled in their own convictions; and that they have not yet fully overcome dislike for evangelical sentiments.

The impression is forced upon us that there is less of growing agreement between our Orthodox and Unitarian neighbors than is manifest on the surface. Religious expressions that are warm and genial, may be construed as meaning far more than they really do. Evidence is not wanting, that the spirit of doctrinal inquiry is more active than in some former years; but it needs plainly to reach deeper, become more fundamental, and more embracing in its aims. Impulses and flashes will never bring men together. There needs to be earnest, patient, thorough Christian discussion; there needs the model disposition and temper of "a little child;" above all else, there needs the Spirit of the Holy One to take of the things that are his and show them unto men.

THE METHODIST QUESTION.

The Zion's Herald and Wesleyan Journal states that it considers the question of arbitration, as between the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Methodist Episcopal Church South, about decided. It says:

"The Southern press approves the recommendation of the Court. Our own agents have promptly proposed to accept it, and we observe that the Southern commissioners, or, at least, Dr. Smith who seems to be a plenipotentiary in the case, have been almost if not equally prompt in the matter. He says, in the Southern Advocate, 'without the least hesitation. I immediately drew up a communication to the defendants, in which I fully open the way for them to embrace without embarrassment, the kind offer of the Court to settle a just claim in a way much more creditable to them, as it was much more agreeable to the Christian feelings of the Court, than by the adversary measures then in process of fulfilment. I did not deem it at all important, in view of the plenary authority conferred on me in the management of this case, to delay this measure, in order to consult further the members of the commission—farther than to take counsel of Dr. Early, who fully concurred. I felt so entirely assured of their readiness, and indeed great anxiety, as well as the anxiety of the whole Southern church, and I believe a large majority of the ministers, and a *very* large majority of the lay membership of the church North, to settle this controversy in an amicable way, that I did not hesitate a moment.'

There will, doubtless, be much diversity of opinion respecting the propriety of deciding the question by the proposed process: but as it was fully authorized at the last General Conference, it is not an open question, and the discussion of its propriety can only harrass the case."

Should this turn out as anticipated, Christians of all denominations will rejoice with their Methodist brethren. Of all disputes that creep into and entangle church operations, those growing out of money issues occasion most discord. Litigation in such cases always aggravates the original quarrel.

THE ALIEN PAUPER LAW.

The new Board of Commissioners, under this law, consists of Isaac Emery, David Wilder, Jr., and J. B. Munroe. They have entered upon their duties, and given notice that the law is in operation. Their first duty is to appoint visitors to all the almshouses in the State, who shall ascertain and report how far the laws regarding alien paupers are enforced, and collect all desirable information touching this matter. The next duty of the Commissioners is, to appoint persons to get the names of all paupers brought into the State otherwise than by water, and obtain the requisite information from officers and agents of railroads, who are required to give it under heavy penalties. As we have before stated, the law makes these roads liable for all foreign paupers brought from other States, in case they become a public charge within a year. Persons to act in this city have already been appointed—Warren B. Thomas, at the Maine and Lowell depots; Jesse Batchelder, at the Providence and Fitchburg, and Daniel D. Hartley, at the Eastern. It now remains to be seen what check foreign pauperism, heretofore thrust upon us by callous-hearted landlords abroad, or speculating harpies at home, will receive under the new system. The Commissioners and their agents have got to be faithful, sleepleesly vigilant, and inexorable, or the statute will soon become an utter blank.

A GOOD SIGN IN CHINA.

It is stated in the Hong Kong Register, that the Chinese have at last begun to associate with foreigners on terms of family intimacy. Interchanges of visits have already taken place between several English and Chinese ladies, and the latter are said to have been highly delighted with the reception they met with, and to have promised to renew the intercourse. This we think to be an important indication, and augur from it much that shall be mutually beneficial to the Chinese and the world. Heretofore, from time immemorial, the ladies of the Celestial Empire have been kept back from foreign society, as if too sacred for profane or Christian eyes to behold. They will now see for themselves that the women of other countries differ from them in little save local fashions and customs. They will learn, too, something about their "outside barbarian" neighbors, and probably be able, in process of time, to induce their liege lords "to conquer their prejudices" against other nations. This family intercourse, if permitted to extend itself, will lead to intercourse by travel; and not many years will be likely to pass, before the hotels and watering places of our own land will become as familiar to the Chinese lady as to the English or French lady. Love of gain has already added to the population of California hundreds of adventurers from the "flowery land," who make the very best citizens. If social intercourse with strangers is not forbidden at home, it will be eagerly sought in the new State, and thus will the foundation be laid for making Americans out of Chinamen, and Christians out of Pagans. Who can now predict the results that will come of this new venture by the ladies of Hong Kong?

POPULATION AND DEPOPULATION.

Political economists make the number of inhabitants which a country sustains in health and comfort the test of its prosperity. This is a true criterion. It bears more directly, however, upon the character and institutions of a people than upon their natural advantages of soil or climate. Government, religion, and habits of industry or indolence have more to do with the increase or dimension of population than any thing connected with the earth or its elements. Scotland and our own New England are far inferior in their natural advantages to some of those lands which support only a sparse and miserable population. The West India Islands have natural sources of wealth far superior, and yet how poor a figure do they make in the commerce and enterprise of the world compared with our own thriving population. The country south of Mason's & Dixon's line is quite as susceptible of advancement as that north of this boundary, and yet the last ceasus shows that the North have already more than twice the population and are increasing in a three fold ratio. To what is this owing but to the difference of slavery and freedom. These are significant facts that show how much interest we have in maintaining the purest forms of religion and government.

Those countries which were once the most populous and prosperous, are some of them now most depressed and miserable. This is the case with Egypt, Italy and the Great Plain, watered by the Euphrates and Tigris Herodotus gives a glowing description of the fertility of that plain in his day. There the ancient empires of Assyria, Chaldea and Medo-Persia once sustained their magnificence. Now it is overrun by a sparse population of Bedouin Arabs, who lead a starving life upon a sandy waste. And yet the country itself, with the irrigation and industry which sustained its ancient opulence, might be made as populous as ever. Its natural advantages have not perished. Italy is in its physical condition as well fitted now to be the proud seat of empire, as when the Old Romans built up their power, wealth and magnificence. A ruinous government, a corrupt religion and a preposterous social system are the sole agents in its depression and desolation. The land of the Pharaohs, once the granary of Rome, now adds less to the wealth of commerce and to the happiness of the nations, than the bleak hills and barren heaths of Scotland.

These thoughts are suggested by the statement lately made that Ireland with one of the richest soils and one of the most salubrious climates in the world, and that too with unrivalled commercial advantages, has within a few years decreased in population to the extent of *two millions*. "In the small city of Cashel, in 1841, the population was 7,036, now 4,780; Limerick in 1841, 48,393, now in round numbers 44,000; in one of the Baronies of Queen's county, Shenemapague, the population has diminished from 17,014 to 11,500; in Corlingford, county of Louth, the decrease has been from 1,110 to 877. The parish of Annadown, Galway, in 1841, had a population of 7,108, in 1851, it is reduced to 3,663, or very nearly one half.

These facts are worthy to be considered on this week of our national jubilee. They admonish us to avoid slavery, to cry out against oppression, to eschew the papal system, which does so much for the ruin of Ireland, and to preserve our liberty intact, and our puritanic religion uncorrupted and unchanged.

SECESSION FROM EPISCOPACY.

The Rev. B. P. Aydelott, D. D., of Cincinnati, heretofore "a burning and shining light" in the Episcopal Church, has felt constrained to withdraw from that communion. As his letter to Bishop M'Ilvaine contains some important statements, we refer to it particularly. It commences by alluding generally to "the evils prevailing in the church," and to the Bishop's exposure of many of them in his various charges, which evils have been "greatly strengthened and extended by the recent Romish movements in the Church of England, and especially by the republication of the Oxford tracts and similar writings in our country." The Doctor says he discovered those evils, then in their embryo state, soon after he became a candidate for the ministry, and that his studies, and the whole course of his ministry, have been "almost one continual struggle against them." He proceeds:

Every intelligent pious man in our church must *now* see, I think, with the Bible in his hands, and the history of our church for the last few years before him, that what is called Puseyism, or the Sacramental system, is simply High-Churchmanship developed, and that from the former it is but a step, and that a very short one, to Rome. It was very natural, however, that one like myself, brought up in the Episcopal Church, and who had never been a member of any other, should believe the best possible of her, and be very reluctant to see her faults. Hence, when the evils now so unfolded and predominant throughout our borders, were first beheld by me in their early aspects, I could not but regard them as *incidental*,—not the natural and necessary results of the system. I hoped and believed that they were merely a misfortune—great, indeed—still merely a misfortune, into which any church, however radically sound, might be betrayed; but from which, by wise Christian effort, she might be restored to her original purity. Such were my views of High-Churchmanship, both in its doctrines and practices. Hence I could not but hope that evangelical truth and piety would finally triumph among us, and that without any fundamental change in our ecclesiastical system. In a word, I regarded evangelism as the native and healthful growth of the soil, and High-Churchmanship as a poisonous exotic.

With such views, he has labored on, doubts however occasionally crossing his mind, whether these evils *might not be more deeply seated* than the friends of evangelical religion among them supposed. He began a more thorough study of "the errors daily becoming more and more rife," and found "his doubts gathering strength, and ripening into clear, well-defined, and indescribably painful convictions." He commenced writing in the Episcopal Recorder upon the unhappy state of the church. His views were afterwards collected and published in a volume. He continued to have hope, and some faith, in his church; but "the doings of the General Conventions of 1844–47–50, and the general course of things in the church for the last few years," have destroyed all hope. "To me, therefore," he writes, "there is no alternative."

"I have contended for the evangelical cause during my whole ministry, as my health and circumstances would allow, and by every lawful means in my power. I have never shrunk back from any degree of odium to which such a ministry in such a church would necessarily expose me; and have always endeavored patiently, and for the most part, silently, to bear the reproaches which it brought upon me. And, what is still more painful, I have not hesitated to risk the coldness and alienation of friends when I thought fidelity to Christ required this trial. Such has been my ministry in the Episcopal Church,—however feeble and imperfect, yet always open, decided, thoroughly evangelical. Both friends and opposers will, I doubt not, freely allow this."

He had but one course left, and that was, after long and prayerful reflection, believing that the Protestant Episcopal Church *needs reformation*, but that she CANNOT BE REFORMED," to reform *from her*.—He concludes:

"Duty to the cause of Christ, to my family and to the world, forbid me any longer to give my influence, however small it may be, to the support of what I cannot but regard as FUNDAMENTALLY WRONG.—With a solemn sense of the responsibility of the step I am now taking, and with no other feeling, I trust, than that of personal kindness towards those whom I leave, I must respectfully, though in great heaviness and sorrow of heart, notify you of my determination no more to exercise my ministry in connection with the Protestant Episcopal Church."

This secession must prove a serious loss to the Episcopal Church of the United States; and enables us to understand in some degree the rejoicings of the Christian Witness and other papers over the repentant attitude of Bishop Ives.

CARDINAL ANTONELLI'S TOBACCO SCHEME.

Lest some of our readers might be disposed to question the fact, that the immaculate and infallible successor of St. Peter has made it a penal offence for any one to prevent, by friendly advice or otherwise, another from using tobacco, we give the edict just issued by the Pope's Cardinal Secretary of State. The weed, be it known, pays a high duty, and thus enables the government to exercise its tyranny. It was to cut off the supplies, that the people, with a patriotism worthy of our own revolutionary sires, resolved to forego a habit that has become to them a second nature. But the Pope says the people *shall* smoke, chew, and snuff, and any thing done to prevent this, is called, in Antonelli's phrase, "impeding the free exercise of lawful actions;" a crime so heinous that it must be subjected, under a suspension of the ordinary laws, to a summary judgment, and execution of the sentence, within twenty-four hours after the commencement of process! But here is the "Notification," as it is styled:

"The insults offered to this pacific population to hinder them from the use of tobacco, have called the attention of the government to secure by suitable means the free exercise of lawful actions, and to subject, with the greatest promptness, those guilty of such crimes the due penalty. Therefore, according to the orders of His Holiness, we publish the following dispositions—

Whoever shall render himself guilty of promoting, or favoring, or executing any act whatever tending to impede the free exercise of lawful actions, and to disturb, in such manner the public order, shall be subjected to a summary judgment to give place to the penalties determined by the law.

The proceeding to be used will aim solely to establish the impartial proof of the bare truth of the fact. Within twenty-four hours, after the commencement of the process, the sentences shall be pronounced by the competent tribunal, and carried immediately into execution.

The police is charged to adopt all the means of prevention and of repression against those who in any way may provoke them; and all the authorities will watch for the full execution of the present dispositions.

Given in Rome, at the office of Secretary of State, May 16th, 1851. G. CARD. ANTONELLI.

The Austrian government is pressing its anti-prevention policy with a high hand. Already, many of its subjects have been sent to the galleys, or subjected to the cruelty and disgrace of a public whipping, because they sought to dissuade their friends and neighbors from using tobacco. Yet, all honor to the people, they only cling the more pertinaciously to their patriotic determination.

ARCHBISHOP HUGHES.

This distinguished Roman Catholic Prelate was honored by a public dinner on the eve of his departure from Liverpool for America. To a toast, lauding the freedom of religion in this country over that of England, he replied as follows. The italics are our own.

He praised the Unity of the Romish faith. It was not British, he said. It was not Whig; it was not Tory; it was not Democratic; but it was Catholic, *Divine, made for mankind*, and not for provinces or nations alone. It was *like the light of heaven, in itself colorless*; it was *like the atmosphere, which was the medium of light, untainted in itself*. He conceived that every man who loved the strength of the British empire must deplore the spectacle which its guardians now exhibit, when they were spending day after day, legislating for two-thirds of the people against the other third, by way of cementing the union. He then referred to Ireland, and said that one eighth of the people of that country had long usurped the whole care of the legislature. The rights of his birth, along with that of the other seven-eighths, had been washed out by the rites of baptism. He was one of those who left with other driftwood, that unhappy country, and he had found in America a mother who adopted him among her own most favored children. There had been no honor conferred upon him in which the rest of the religious world there did not seem to take a pleasure. He could imagine how even the bigots among them (for there were some there) would start at a man who would call in question his right to call himself Archbishop of New York. They admitted the principle of liberty of conscience, and were too shrewd and logical not to admit the consequence. Here, he said, all that the hierarchy had asked of the British Legislature was the loan of a few letters of the alphabet. The Rev. Speaker then adverted to the various distinguished converts who had of late years gone over to the Church of Rome.

The Archbishop did not say a word about the Roman Catholic persecutions, which are driving Protestants into prison or exile in Tuscany; not a word about the recent *concordat* fastening anew the Popish religion upon Spain as a State system; not a word about any Roman Catholic country that makes it a duty to exclude or burn the Bible, if publicly read by, or found in the hands of a Protestant; not a word! England has an Established Church, but it is Protestant! There's the rub.

ASSOCIATIONS AND CONVENTIONS.

The Iowa Baptist State Convention held recently its tenth anniversary at Muscatine. Rev. G. J. Johnson, of Burlington, preached the introductory sermon. Several other sermons were delivered during the session. The Watchman of the Prairies states that several important churches are destitute of pastors, among which are Dubuque, Davenport, Maquoreta, Marion, and Iowa City.

The Convention proposed to raise one thousand dollars among their churches, and two thousand dollars East, through their Home Mission agent, Rev. B. F. Brabrook, for the purpose of increasing the number now in the State to thirty more ministers.

A resolution was offered by T. H. Archibald, which, after remarks by G. J. Johnson, L. Stone, and others, was unanimously passed by the Convention, appointing a committee of three to correspond with Baptist ecclesiastical bodies in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois, in regard to the establishment of a Baptist Theological Institution for the North West. S. B. Johnson, of Muscatine, G. J. Johnson, and D. P. Smith were appointed that committee. The Rock Island High School and Female Seminary was recommended to the patronage of the Convention.

The Chicago Baptist Association held its last annual sermon at Woodstock, McHenry county. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Freeman, of Lake county. A full attendance of delegates from nearly all the churches was present. The Association is composed of twenty churches, nearly all of which have preaching all or part of the time. Among the most prominent churches are the Tabernacle church, of Chicago, Waukegan, Bloomingdale, Elgin, Dundee, St. Charles, Babcock's Grove, Queen Ann, Woodstock, Crystal Lake, and Algonquin, each of which is supplied with a pastor.

Western, Nova Scotia, Association.—We learn from the Christian Messenger that the Western Association of Baptist churches, Nova Scotia, commenced its first session at Yarmouth, on Saturday, June 7th.

"Ministers and other delegates from the various churches throughout the counties of Yarmouth, Digby, Annapolis, Queen's and Shelburne, were present. After singing and prayer by Rev. Harris Harding, the Association was organized by the election of Rev. R. B. Dickey, Moderator, Rev. G. Armstrong, Clerk, and Rev. S. Brown, Assistant Clerk. The first object of importance was the reading of a new form of constitution, some points of which, having been harmoniously discussed, it was adopted as the Articles of the Western Nova Scotia Association. The letters were then read, and with gratitude to Almighty God we are enabled to state that in many cases large additions have been made to our Zion. Yarmouth has received signal manifestations of the Divine favor, one hundred and ninety-three having been added by baptism during the past winter. This church now numbers seven hundred and eleven, and is the largest in the Province. The contributions to our Union Society and various benevolent objects, were in many instances praiseworthy, though we regret to say that in some of our churches there was not that manifestation of liberality which the interests of the cause demand."

Sermons were delivered, during the session, by Rev. S. Robinson, Rev. Dr. Cramp, President of Acadia College, Rev. I. E. Bill, and Rev. Mr. Bentley. Missions, and various objects of Christian enterprise, including Acadia College, came before the body, and met with a sympathetic response.

Hudson River Association, South.—This body held its last annual meeting with the First Baptist church in Brooklyn.

Rev. E. E. L. Taylor, presiding, H. J. Eddy, and L. Parmly, Clerks. Rev. Thomas Armitage preached the introductory sermon. Rev. D. L. Miller delivered a sermon on education. The Committee on the state of religion reported through Rev. E. L. Magoon.

In accordance with the vote of the Association, Rev. T. S. Malcom spoke in behalf of the American Baptist Publication Society, Rev. C. Evans in behalf of the American Tract Society, Rev. B. M. Hill in behalf of the Home Mission Society, and Rev. E. G. Perry in behalf of the State Convention.

The writer of the circular letter is Rev. E. Lathrop.

Stubridge Sabbath School Convention.—The fifteenth anniversary of this body, was held at Belchertown, on the 17th inst. The eight schools embraced in the Sturbridge Association, represented themselves as in a somewhat flourishing condition. There had been several conversions, but less than during the preceding year. Less had been expended on libraries but more had been contributed by the schools for benevolent purposes. Essays and addresses were listened to from Rev. Messrs. Parker, of Three Rivers, Douglass, of Amherst College, Dorrance, of Sturbridge, Hodges, of Brookfield, Bullard, of Ware, and Bosworth, of Boston. Interesting remarks were also elicited from other brethren, and all the exercises awakened a pleasing and, we trust, a salutary interest.

The number of scholars reported as connected with the schools composing this Convention has never been large. This year it was somewhat short of eight hundred. But the interchange of views on these occasions, the commingling of sympathies, the quickening of devotional feeling and of the sense of Christian responsibility, and the frank and fitting expression of truth, in the public assembly and in the social circle, have contributed to render these gatherings an object of desire to the pious, and to secure in some measure, it is believed, the ends distinctly proposed at the origin of the Convention. The occasion is one for pious gratitude to our Heavenly Father, to whom we have been indebted for our success, and to whom, while we quicken our dilligence and zeal in this department of labor, we must continue to rely for all good counsels and useful achievements. BAIKES.

Ashford Association.—This association held its late anniversary with the church in Willimantic Ct. A writer in the Christian Secretary says the whole number of baptisms gives only a fraction over one to a church. The session of this body was harmonious. "We had" says the correspondent of the Secretary, "our usual attendance of *Agents*, all anxious for an opportunity to present the claims of their various objects of benevolence. And our Committee of Arrangements very courteously gave up to them a share of our time."

Stonington Union.—This body celebrated its seventy-ninth anniversary with the church in Portersville Ct., on the 20th ult., Rev. A. G. Palmer, presiding, Rev. O. F. Walker and F. A. Slater, clerks. Introductory sermon by Rev. O. T. Walker. Other sermons were preached during the session, by Rev. Messrs. Palmer and Swan. The entire anniversary was one of harmony, and a happy devotional spirit was manifest.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Revival Scene in Vermont.—Rev. James Gallaher communicates to the New York Evangelist several interesting facts that came under his notice in connection with recent revivals in Vermont. Such a scene as is described below, is suited to send a thrill through the hearts of the redeemed on earth, and cause joy among the angels. Speaking of the fruits of Divine influence in Northern New England, where he has labored, Mr. G. says:

Very hopeless cases have been reached, we trust savingly, by the Spirit of God. As a sample take the following: At Walden, in Caledonia county, Vt., the meeting had continued through five successive days. The solemnity had been deep and extensive. The design was to close the services with the afternoon session on the fifth day. The sermon was preached, the closing hymn sung, and the minister had risen to pronounce the final benediction, when behold, at the extreme end of the church from the pulpit, sprung up a man somewhat past the meridian of life. "I wish the liberty of saying a few things before the congregation is dismissed." These words were spoken with a loud voice, and in a manner somewhat hurried and agitated. They effectually arrested the attention of the entire audience. The officiating minister paused, the assembly was not dismissed, and the speaker went on. "You know not, you all know me. I have been an enemy of this church. I have professed atheism, and have long tried to believe it. I have spoken publicly and bitterly against the members of this church, and have aimed to injure them. I now confess the folly and wickedness of what I have done, and I have risen to ask the members of your church to forgive the unkind and ungenerous treatment which they have received at my hands, and to pray for me that I may have forgiveness from God."

"Do you desire that we should pray for you now?" asked the minister.

"Yes, *now*."

"Then come forward into this open space before the pulpit, and we will kneel down and call on the name of a forgiving God."

The relenting atheist left his position at the extreme end of the church, and with the solmnity of a funeral procession marched forward into the vacant space in front of the pulpit. Deep and awful were the emotions of that congregation as they looked on, and witnessed this movement. The relenting atheist was known to them all. But a little time since, they had seen him engaged in circulating, with much industry and zeal, the profane publications of Abner Kneeland. They had heard him deriding sacred things, while he cast "fire-brands, arrows, and death," at those who were called by the name of the Lord Jesus, and now "behold he prayeth." As he stood in front of the pulpit, before kneeling down for prayer, the eyes of all were fastened on him, and it seemed as if the crowded assembly almost held its breath in the profound stillness and solemnity of the moment. It looked as it indeed, "the dead had heard the voice of the Son of God."

"Are there any others in the house?" asked the officiating minister, "who wish to unite with this man in requesting that prayer for your salvation may be offered up to a prayer-hearing God? if so, come forward at once and take your place beside him." There was an instantane

and good preaching gifts, wishing an extensive field of labor and usefulness in an important and pleasant location, and will obey the high mandate of heaven, "Go preach my gospel," instead of reading his sermons, would ensure the approbation of God and a fair remuneration for his labors of love from the Baptist church of Warsaw, Wyoming county, N. Y. None others need apply.

E. B. CRIPEN, Clerk.

Warsaw, June 21, 1851.

In Livingston, N. J., a new Baptist church was organized on the 17th ult. The church, though very small, is engaged in erecting a house of worship at an expense of $2000, and already more than half this amount has been subscribed. In Hamilton City, C. W., a Baptist church was recognized in the John Street chapel, on the 11th ult.

LITERARY NOTICES.

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, from the adoption of the Federal Constitution to the end of the 16th Congress. By Richard Hildreth. In 3 volumes. Vol. 1. New York: Harper & Brothers.

The author has already given, in three volumes, our colonial and revolutionary history; and now we have the first of a series of three additional volumes, which are designed to embrace the period subsequent to the adoption of the Constitution. This volume takes up the administration of Washington, and embodies the facts belonging to that brief, but important chapter in our political history. It requires some nerve to plant one's self upon a period that is yet almost too near our own times to be made a safe topic for historical investigation. Another half century must end, before the tests of a severe and satisfactory analysis can be applied to events of such magnitude in themselves, and of such potency and scope in their influence upon society. After a careful reading of the seven hundred pages of this volume, we shall not doubt that the author has, on the whole, made a fair use of his resources. He affects no disguise in what direction his political bias leads him, showing clearly enough that he is no admirer of Jefferson, nor of the policy which that statesman of the French philosophy had partially bodied forth during the first decade of our administrative existence. A paragraph to this point may be given. Referring to the last bebate that ever passed between Washington and Jefferson, from which it was apparent that their views of the public interest had become fundamentally different, the author expresses himself plainly. "Washington," says he, "thought positive proof necessary to sustain political accusations, especially when they involved the charges of corruption and treasonable designs. Jefferson was ever ready to proceed upon surmise, conjecture, and the promptings of suspicion and hatred. Washington was no believer in the infallibility of any man; while Jefferson, in the true spirit of party fanaticism, never hesitated to denounce as fools, dupes, or knaves, all who presumed to differ from the varying view of political affairs which the passions, the prejudices, the interests of the moment led him to adopt." This, and various other passages that might be given from the book, shows that the author entered upon his task with decided biases in favor of the conclusions to be reached. It is hardly necessary, therefore, to say that Washington and his illustrious compeers of the same political faith are deprived of no laurels which have been conferred upon them by a grateful country.

In his previous volumes, the author deals exclusively in events, leaving the reader to extract from them their philosophy as best he can. It is difficult to recal a historian that more scrupulously adheres to the principle of minutiæ in detail from beginning to end. If he took M. Thiers as a guide, he has had the fortune to exceed his master, and to prove that volume after volume may be formed out of little more than the driest narrative. This, however, is better than the tiresome and prolonged flourishes of rhetoric which writers of history sometimes dash off, for the purpose either of concealing their sluggishness in investigation, or of glorifying a particular event at the expense of a thousand details essential to the correct result. A true commander, in making up his report of a battle, seeks to be just to the rank and file of his army. The volume before us differs somewhat in this respect from the others. The narrative is no less minute, but it is relieved of what Coleridge would call its dry-as-dust features, by occasional sketches of character, and of occurrences rather episodical than necessary to the main subject. Examples of the former may be found in the portraitures of Jefferson, Adams, and Hamilton; brief, but well and faithfully drawn; of the latter, in the sketch of the Pennsylvania Quakers, wherein the author happily refers to the efforts they made to prevent the revival of theatrical entertainments, which had been suspended during the Revolution. We must be excused for dwelling a moment on this pleasant episode.

It seems that the regular performance of stage plays was first introduced into the States in 1702. The company in 1774, somewhat the worse for wear, dilapidated "old stagers" in form and numbers, a kind of "forlorn hope" remnant of the old Shakspearian band, though headed by a son of the first manager, had theatres in New York, Philadelphia, and other cities. At that time, the Continental Congress, having recommended the discontinuance of "shows, plays, and other expensive diversions," this company went to Jamaica, and "in the forest came benighted upon ten bears dancing, consoling themselves with the pleasing anticipation of the glorious peace that was at length effected." They returned, and in 1785, opened their theatres in New York and Philadelphia. These patriotic players" were received by many with expressions of aversion. A law of Pennsylvania, passed in 1786, prohibited theatrical entertainments, and required actors, who were all classed with "vagrants," to give security for good behavior, or be committed to the county jail. In 1794, the law was repealed, nor could the Quakers, though they made repeated efforts, ever again obtain its re-enactment. In 1793, a memorial, asking leave to open a theatre in Boston, was rejected by the Legislature of Massachusetts.

In spite of the unwonted zeal of Massachusetts, a small theatre was built in Boston, which was opened in 1792 as the New Exhibition Room." To the disadvantages which at first attended it, Governor Hancock and others had largely contributed by their absence. Strangers had lately entered the State, and in the metropolis of Government, under advertisements insulting to the laws, and to the virtue and religion of the citizens, had been pleased to invite them to aid in the violation of both. Such advertisements, under the name of lectures, such as strolling players, imbeciles, and theatrical entertainers, might be allowed to pass with a most condemnatory insult to the people and government. Shortly after this denunciation by the Governor, a subscription, one night, for the benefit of the performance of Cato, raised the question of the propriety of its being appeared. The question was argued before the Supreme Court, and broke up the court. The question was argued before the Supreme Court, and broke up the court. The question was argued before the Supreme Court, and broke up the court

MISCELLANEOUS.

For the Watchman and Reflector.

LETTER FROM ILLINOIS.

MESSRS. EDITORS,—You have heard of Rock Spring—every body has heard of Rock Spring; at least, every body versed in notabilities either of person or of place. Rock Spring, and the notability of that notable place, are among my early, if not earliest recollections. The freaks of fortune leading me a pilgrimage in this "far off land," the landable caprice seized me of making a pilgrimage to Rock Spring, and especially to visit the presiding genius of that place. For this purpose, a few mornings since, I found myself in the pearl city of the West, St. Louis. Here I called upon the new editor of the Western Watchman, the Rev. Mr. Crowell. I was glad to find Mr. Crowell hale, hearty, and full of hope, with a strong heart and a ready hand to lay hold of the responsibilities of his new station. Arduous are its duties, but never was a field fuller of promise.

About five in the evening, crossing the river, I took a hack for Collinsville, twelve miles from St. Louis, over a beautiful plank road, and the next morning, after a pleasant drive over a beautiful country some ten miles—the latter part of the way attended by a most excellent friend—the mansion of Rev. J. M. Peck rose up before me, and I soon had the pleasure of surprising its lord, "up to the eyes," as usual, in books, manuscripts, and papers. A prompt and warm greeting was sufficient to attest that he has a heart for his friends, as well as a mind devoted to his books and his pen. All who know Mr. Peck's inexhaustible conversational resources, will not be at loss to divine that we did not get far from the parlor and study, for a day or two. At last, however, I was led out and introduced to *the* Rock Spring,—not the *aggregate* Rock Spring, made up of an academy, plantation, and dwelling, and their varied surroundings full of historic interest,—but the *veritable Rock Spring*, gushing from among the rocks with as pure a glee as though coming for the first time from the glad bosom of nature. After running a few hundred yards, it falls gracefully into a beautiful creek, which has served as a Jordan for many a holy scene.

After due homage to this place, we bent our steps to Rock Spring Academy, not unknown to fame. Much of its surroundings are among the things that were, but the main building is still entire, and in a good state of preservation. After clambering up the stairs, somewhat infirm by their long use, I was introduced into Mr. Peck's rare library. Here, certainly, was a feast of, at least, very rare things. I believe I saw no antediluvian books or papers, or manuscripts. But I really believe one thing—if ever any antediluvian newspaper comes to light in our surviving world, it will be very likely to be found on file in Mr. Peck's library—further than this deponent saith not. Mr. Peck's whole collection is one of great value, and I believe he designs that it shall at some time lie upon the shelves of Shurtleff College—a worthy gift of a worthy man.

Mr. Peck has left his mark upon the world, and especially in this Western country, a mark which after years will not efface. Though suffering some infirmity from past herculean labors and great exposures, his head and hands are still vigorously busy, as though the work of another lifetime were to be accomplished.

I bade farewell, and turned my face homeward with a prayer that God would give the world a multitude more of such workers.

GLENWOOD.

DR. BACON AT JERUSALEM.

UNDER date of February 23, 1851, Rev. Leonard Bacon, D. D., of New Haven, addresses to his church and society in that city a pastoral letter from Jerusalem. The following extract, inspired by hallowed associations surrounding him, is descriptive and impressive:

"Would that I could adequately express to you the thoughts and feelings with which I look upon the places of the great historical facts recorded in the Scriptures. Many of the most interesting of these places I am yet to visit. I hope to visit, before many days are passed, the village of Nazareth, the sea of Galilee, the plain of Gennesaret. I hope soon to see Bethlehem, where was born to us a Prince and Saviour who is Christ the Lord. But I am permitted to date this letter from the city where our Lord was crucified. I have walked over the Mount of Olives to Bethany, where Jesus lodged in the house of Mary and Martha and of Lazarus whom he has raised from the dead. I have stood upon the height from which he beheld the city and wept over it. I have walked around the hill once crowned with the temple in which he taught, and of which he foretold the utter and dreadful overthrow. I have seen Gethsemane, where he was in agony beneath the burthen of our redemption. I have looked upon the mountains round about Jerusalem and the deep valleys between; and I have returned to the sight again and again, till the vernal landscape upon which he looked in the hour of his crucifixion—the same outline of hills and sky which at this eye are the sun was darkened—has become almost as familiar to me as the familiar view of the hills and mountains around the city of our own habitation. I need not say that this privilege, for which, under God I am greatly indebted to your kindness, is worth all that it costs me. But I would say that to me this privilege is far more than a mere luxury of sentimentalism. God forbid that the mere enjoyment of looking upon these places, rich as that enjoyment is, should be the only compensation to me for the long pilgrimage I have performed in coming hither, and for this protracted separation from my dearest friends and from the work I love. Nor do I find my compensation merely in the hope that the personal inspection of these places, and a familiarity with the aspects of nature here, will aid me hereafter in illustrating the language of the Holy Scriptures. I think I find a higher benefit, both for myself and for my ministry, in the intensified feeling of reality which, as I look upon these places, connects itself with the great facts that are the basis of our faith and hope. As I read in the records of the Old Testament the historical notices of Jerusalem, from the day when David took the stronghold of the Jebusites, to the day when Nehemiah, after the captivity, rebuilt the walls of the Holy City—as I read one and another of the Psalms and then walk about Zion, remembering that as the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about them that fear him—as I read the inspired words which were uttered here by the Prophets—every incident, every allusion which has any local reference, presents itself to the mind with the most vivid exactness. It seems to behold the pomp of that ancient ritual, in which Christ, our high priest, our altar, and our sacrifice was shadowed forth by living, yet inadequate symbols. I seem to hear the voices of the prophets foretelling the incarnation of that Saviour, in whose work and kingdom all prophecy centers and is consummated. I seem to catch the whispered aspirations of kings and righteous men, who, in the dim light of ages long ago, desired to see the things which we see. And when I turn from the Old Testament to the New, and read from the records what our Lord himself taught, and did, and suffered within these precincting mountains, upon the soil on which his steps have been accumulated the successive ruin of eighteen hundred years,—I seem to see, with a more lively apprehension, "God manifest in the flesh," "the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world." I seem to trace along the Mount of Olives to the vale of Kedron, the daily paths of him who had not where to lay his head. I see him entering the city attended by the multitudes that spread their garments in his way, and cried with ignorant exultation, "Hosanna to the Son of David." I see him as he sits with his disciples over against the temple, and foretells with minute exactness the destruction of the temple and the city, and the end of the ancient dispensation. I see him in that upper room where he kept the passover with his disciples, and breathed into their unprepared minds those sublime promises and consolations which his church in all ages has so abundantly appreciated. I see him in the garden, in the high priest's palace, in the hall of Pilate, while the watches of the night in which he was betrayed are slowly passing. I hear the shouts of the people rejecting him and demanding him to die. I see him on the cross. I hear the wail of the women as they gather around his lifeless body to prepare it for its burial. The stone is rolled to the door of the sepulchre. The Sabbath passes away in silence and gloom; and then comes to the amazed and incredulous disciples the stupendous fact of his resurrection. I see them as they, their doubt, their slow reception of the fact made palpable to their senses. I see them at last returning from the mount which is called Olivet, and testifying that he who had been crucified and laid in the tomb is risen from the dead, is Christ the Lord, invested with all power in heaven and on earth, and that in his name, and to other, there is salvation for men.

The message then which I would send you from Gethsemane, from the city where our Lord was crucified, and from the slope whence he ascended to reign at the right hand of the Majesty on high—the message I would send you from the place where the new work of the revealing and renewing Spirit began upon the day of Pentecost, and whence the gospel went forth to bless all nations,—is first of all that which was written by the Apostle to the Hebrews, "Hold fast the profession of your faith without wavering."

You have trusted not in fables and vain traditions, but in facts. Permit yourselves to entertain no momentary doubt of the grand historic realities on which rest all our hopes for our own souls and for this wicked and miserable world. Let no distrust of these facts weaken your Christian energy, or cloud your Christian hope. The story of Jesus of Nazareth, in all the grandeur of its import, and in all the fathomless and boundless mysteries which it involves, is a true story—a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation.

DESTRUCTIVE VICES.

REV. A. L. STONE, of Park Street church, this city, made some startling remarks at the late anniversary of the Moral Reform Society, on the prevalence and power of destructive vices in Boston, as well as elsewhere. According to a report in the Traveller, Mr. Stone said:

A stranger coming to this city might see but little of what has been related to us to-day. He would see our beautiful Common, with its sparkling fountain, its green and shady trees redolent with the music of birds; he would see numerous church spires; signs of great wealth in our warehouses, and on our seaboard margin forests of masts; he would see scattered over the city charitable institutions of various kinds, and if he should see but this he would go away with a good report of us. There is an evil, however, which this Association seeks to lift.

The question is, can any thing be done to dry up this stream of vice and save many from ruin. If murder or theft is committed, the law comes into operation; but if a poor soul is defiled, there is no one to say, "Why do you so?"

Are there, indeed, said the speaker, six hundred chambers of death in the midst of our one hundred and fifty thousand people. Such a terrible fact ought to be proclaimed from every pulpit, and thundered abroad from every press. The Christian community should concern themselves about this matter.

In alluding to the causes of this overflow of vice, he spoke of the engraver and painter, who are often called upon to use their art to stir up the hellish passions of the mind. The theatre doors are wide open, and the costume of the actors and the attitude of the dancers are all calculated to stimulate unholy desires, and lead on to ruin.

The cheap, light literature, which is flooding the community, was also alluded to as a powerful agent in this demoralization, and he said, ought to be christened as of the "Satanic school." It contains an under current of libertinism which is a malaria to the soul.

Can any thing be done, he asked in conclusion, to arrest the supply to these death chambers, where the average life is only from five to seven years? In New York city, a police officer can be seen parading the streets, holding aloft a flaming placard—"Beware of Mock Auctions," and in our own streets we often see posted a notice, "Beware of Pickpockets," but a far more important placard to be borne every where in our streets, and posted at our public places, would be, "Beware of the Destroyer of female innocence." This Society is doing all it can to arrest this tide of evil.

FATHER GAVAZZI.

The subjoined sketch of a man who has made a good deal of stir in London, and whose tirades against Popery have attracted multitudes to his lectures, is from the Tribune:

We have the following facts in the history of Father Gavazzi. When the intelligence of the rising in Milan, and the defeat of the Austrians in Lombardy, was brought to Rome, a festival was given, at which the students seized the eloquent priest, and bore him on their shoulders to the Pantheon, in order that he might pronounce a eulogy on the fallen patriots of Milan. From that time, he commenced his career as the herald of freedom. The priesthood's cross was then put on his coat, and it bears it still. He spoke for a week in the Coliseum to the assembled people, and made it the arena of public deliberation. The people encouraged Gavazzi in his endeavors, and appointed him high chaplain to the army, which was to be formed of the National Guard and of volunteers. In this society, he remained with ceaseless men from home, and after a short halt on the borders, the Vatican gave decisive battle to the army, as it had previously to Gavazzi, to fall upon the Austrians. This march was victorious even to the gates of Vicenza. Gavazzi's eloquence made good the want of cannon, clothing, provisions, money in fact of all the munitions of war; the good will of the people supplied every thing. He was their Peter the Hermit, and their chief in the rebellion. At Vicenza, in the great Court of St. Mark, he spoke daily to thousands, and finished the mastery of the Venetians. The women robbed themselves of their jewels, the fair-women sold the silver trinkets from their hair, valuables of every kind were bestowed upon him. When the Romans fell off, Gavazzi raised his voice in Florence. The Duke gave orders to expel the monk. He fled to Genoa, but since the Bourbons on the first of August, had broke out into open revolt against the Liberals, and established a government, Gavazzi was called to assist in the restoration of peace. His entrance was like a triumph.

General Zucchi was now sent from Rome, to assume the command of the troops in Bologna, and at the instance of the Cardinal-legate, he had Gavazzi arrested, and sent under a strong guard to prison at Cervoia. On the way the people rose in a body at Verona, in order to free their patriot, and Pius IX. himself compelled to procure him his liberty. After the flight of the Pope, the establishment of a new government, and the call of the Roman National Assembly, Gavazzi again was placed in the office of Chaplain General, and as such, made all the arrangements for enlarging the hospitals which seemed to be necessary for the approach of the French army. He formed the most distinguished ladies into a Committee for taking care of the wounded soldiers, and undertook in person the night of the surgical department, during the whole siege. When, during the defence against Oudinot, an attempt was made on the king of Naples, who, with 20,000 men, had advanced to Villetri, Father Gavazzi placed himself at the head of the Romans, whom Garibaldi led, and after they had put the enemy to flight, he remained on the battle-field to take care of the sick and wounded. Returning to the besieged city of Rome, it was he who urged to sustain the courage of the inhabitants, and was always to be found in the ranks of the combatants and on the walls. When Rome fell, Oudinot gave him a good testimonial and a free passport, which he used by the Austrians, while Father Ugo Bassi was shot by the Austrians, while the French let Gavazzi go free. He went to London, where he lived in retirement, supporting himself chiefly by giving a little instruction in his mother tongue, for which he found opportunity. After the publication in England, his countrymen wished to hear him speak on this subject, and accordingly made an arrangement for lectures, in which he has set forth the checkered history of the Roman temporal States in a mingled vein of irony and earnestness.

THE PRAIRIE DOG.

The following from the Providence Journal, written by a member of the Mexican Boundary Commission, is the best of many accounts we have read of the prairie dog:

The prairie dog, so called, deserves a better name, as it has not the least common to dogs, nor does it in the least resemble them. Its looks and habits are different, and it feeds wholly on grass. This is one of the most interesting animals met with on the prairies. The first colony of these little creatures we met was near Brady's creek, a branch of the Colorado of the East. This was the largest we met, and I have never heard of one so extensive. For three days we travelled through the colony, during which time we did not lose sight of them. On either side, as far as we could see over the plain, their habitations extended, standing out in bold relief, and distinctly marked by the hillocks they had raised with the earth brought from below the surface of the ground. Their habitations were usually about two rods apart, and from the beaten track between some of them, there was probably a family connection. In other cases, there was nothing to denote an intimacy. Occasionally was seen a hillock much larger than the rest, containing two cart-loads of earth. These had two entrances to them, where it might be inferred, that the family might be larger than usual. We suppose this vast collection of these "prairie dogs" to extend from 60 to 70 miles, as we travelled at that time upward of 20 miles a day.

For the greater part of the distance where this colony extended, the country was very flat, and covered with short grass (kept so by the animals feeding on it) and by musquit trees. Rivers did not stop the colony, for several streams passed through it, but it extended on both sides. In one instance I noticed a colony of these animals on the summit of a range of hills where the country was exceedingly barren, and the herbage so scant that there seemed hardly sufficient enough even for them. It was evident that the colony was not in a flourishing condition, as many of the habitations were deserted.

Of the habits of these animals, I can say little from observation, as we could not stop long enough to watch them. I would have been glad to have taken a position in or near a tree for a day for the sole purpose of studying their habits, for I have no satisfactory account of them. Major Long, in his expedition to the Rocky Mountains, is one of the earliest writers who describes them. He says they pass the winters in a lethargic state. But other travellers deny this, and say that they come from their holes during the winter whenever it is warm. I saw them on some pretty cold days in November, and think there are few days when they do not come from their holes. In the plains far to the North, where snow lies on the ground for weeks, and where the cold is severe, they doubtless become torpid—for they could find nothing to feed on, even should they venture from their habitations.

The color of the prairie dog is a light brownish yellow. Its size varies from that of a large grey squirrel to a Northern woodchuck. Its tail is bushy—like a grey squirrel's, but only about half its length. It stands erect like a squirrel, with its tail in constant motion, and its motions taken altogether resemble those of that animal more than any other. It makes a noise more resembling the chirping of a bird than the barking of a dog, and this is kept up whenever any one approaches. As we drew near their habitations, we noticed a general scampering among them, each running to his hillock. They would then stand erect at the entrance of their holes, with their heads just peeping above, when they would keep up an incessant chirping, and frisking of their tails until we passed. I found it difficult to shoot one, and think more than a dozen shots were fired before we secured one. I must believe that more were killed, but as they stood at the entrance of their holes, they doubtless fell in when they were shot, as I noticed blood about them in several instances. Two that I obtained were too much injured to be preserved as specimens.

The prairie dog is said to be good food—but at the time we killed those referred to, our provisions were plenty, and no one could be tempted to try them—subsequently, when we got on short allowance, we should not have hesitated to eat them, but we had then got beyond their colonies. There is one peculiarity in their habits, which deserves to be noticed. It is their drink. How and where do they obtain it?—They generally select the most arid spots for their abodes, and I have seen a colony of them fifteen miles from the nearest water. Some persons suppose them to burrow so deep that they find water, others that they do not drink at all. I am inclined to believe that they require but little water, and this they obtain from the heavy dew on the grass.

Rabbits often burrow with the prairie dogs—or what is more probable, they occupy habitations made by the latter. The habits of a rabbit generally lead them to places where shrubs and bushes abound, and not to a bare plain with nothing but dwarfish musquit trees. I think, therefore, that the rabbits I have seen are merely some wanderers strayed away from their more natural places, which finding comfortable quarters provided by the prairie dog, without the labor of burrowing themselves, drive away the weaker animals and monopolize their dwellings.

A small brown owl also resides with the prairie dogs. I saw this bird several times toward evening, standing on the little hillocks, just emerging from its underground habitation. From the known habits of the owl, one of which is its fondness for ground mice, moles, and other small quadrupeds, it doubtless seeks the quarters of the prairie dogs to feed on the young, although one would suppose this animal to be sufficient strength to drive from its habitation so diminutive a bird as this owl. I never saw any but the small owl alluded to in these colonies.

Besides the rabbit and owl, which dwell with these animals, there is another creature which is always found among them, this is the rattle-snake. I had often heard that such was the case, but I believed it accidental, until I witnessed the fact in several instances. On one occasion, I saw several of these revolting reptiles enter a single hole in the very midst of a dog town. No one can believe that there is any friendship between two animals of such opposite natures, but prairie dogs, for the sole purpose of living on them. They cannot drive the snake away, and are compelled to give him quiet possession of any habitation he may select, and let him occasionally feed upon the junior members of their fraternity.

THE DEAD.

The dead are every where!
The mountain-side, the plain, the wood profound,
All the wide earth, the fertile and the bare,
Is covered ground!

Within the populous street,
In solitary haunts where no foot is heard,
In summer-houses, where gossip and laxury meet,
Mean how themselves to stir.

The cold man at the door,
The unwelcome guest, and all marauding his wordless song,
The business and the idler, the rich, the poor,
All—all to death belong!

The sunlight gilds the walls,
And silently seems here enwreathed with grace,
And through the shadow of the casement falls
Athwart the chamber-grass.

The tinkling of some flute,
Whither their gleesome echoes by the sea,
And lovers and women with their children's voices,
The faithful and the false.

They were, but they are not!
Such is your product, earth, put on her bloom,
Whilst others, to the common soil,
Went down into the tomb.

And still, amid the weeds
Of unsightly covetousness passed away,
And worthy deed growth, the fragrant wild flower, decks
The forehead yesterday.

And in the twilight even,
The veiled women in garb like her who went,
Sister of Lazarus, to the grave to weep,
To breathe in low lament.

The dead are every where!
We tread on it in love, or fondedness, or faith;
Where we go in anger, pomp or pride, where or
Late in, or soon, in death.

AGRICULTURAL.

RECLAIMING WASTE MEADOW LAND.

In the Essex County reports, Dr Porter, of Wenham, furnishes the following account of his own success in reclaiming a piece of waste meadow land:

My meadow, which you viewed in July last, was surveyed Sept. 30, 1850, and contains two acres and twenty-five poles, including the ditches, which occupy a fraction over thirteen poles of the surface. For many years previous to my purchase in 1832, it was annually covered with water two or three feet deep from November to April, by means of a dam made at the lower end of the meadow to connect with a natural ridge of the adjacent upland. While the flowing was continued the years I purchased it my hay was large, averaging more than a ton to the acre, but the quality was inferior. This meadow was very wet even in August, and all the hay had to be carted out, for it would not bear an ox without miring, upon any part of its surface. It was also very rough, abounding in hassocks, and small bushes, about the size of a pipe stem, began to make their appearance. The depth of the soil, or vegetable matter, was from three to twelve feet to hard bottom. There were two ditches three or four feet wide, one on the northern, and the other on the eastern margin of the meadow, which were made to answer for the division fence, and forming a juncture near the dam, partially drained off the surplus water. In the summer of 1850, I dug two ditches three and a half feet wide by two or more deep, lengthwise of the meadow, and terminating in the ditch on the north end, thus dividing it into three nearly equal lots. From this time I ceased to mow it in the winter, and it soon became much drier; the quantity of hay decreased more than one half, with no perceptible improvement in the quality, and in one or two years the whole meadow settled nearly two feet, apparently leaving about three inches of the surface entirely detached from the vegetable deposit, autumn of 1847, when I began to reclaim. Two men in the dark, pealed the whole top, and threw it into heaps a little larger than common sized hay cocks. This was easily accomplished, for the men would often take up a flake a yard square at once with little effort, and leave a surface as smooth as the house floor. I set fire to this toppings as soon as it was dry enough to burn, but the peaty soil below ignited, and the fire was with difficulty extinguished. It was all removed to the upland, some on handbarrows, but mostly by the ox team after the ground had frozen hard enough to bear, and was used to replenish the hog and cow yards, after settling a very large quantity to my neighbors, sufficient to defray all the expenses I had thus far incurred. The first of August, 1848, I hired three robust Irishmen for one dollar and a quarter per day each, and they were to find their own board, and one of my hired men upon the farm worked with them half a month. In forty days, with wheelbarrows and a tier of plank extending half across the meadow from the adjacent bank of gravel on one side, and then from the ridge on the other, they covered the whole surface from three to four inches deep. After the middle of September I sowed three bushels of red top and three pecks of herds grass, and two men in one day raked in the seed. For the want of rain and a top dressing of manure, the grass seed made the ground had thawed, I purchased twelve cords of manure in my neighborhood, which was carted and spread evenly over the meadow. I then sowed twelve pounds of clover seed, and in July following I cut what was estimated by competent judges to be five tons of handsome hay, and in September two tons of rowen. The meadow was now hard and solid enough without difficulty. In November last, I mixed two cords of loam from a low piece of land where I was digging, and spread the same on about one third of the lot. In March last I spread three and a half cords of stable manure on another third, and upon the remaining third I spread one hundred and fifty bushels of leached ashes. The hay this year has all been weighed at the town scales. The first cutting in July weighed a few pounds less than seven and a half tons, and the second in September a few pounds over three and a half tons making eleven tons this year, and the product of the two years eighteen tons. The manure and the ashes, exclusive of the loam from the cellar, which has been put upon this land within two years, amounts to twenty cords, and including the expense of carting and spreading, has cost one hundred dollars. I paid the three Irishmen for labor one hundred and fifty dollars, and estimate the labor and board of my man at twenty dollars more, making the whole expense of reclaiming and manuring amount to two hundred and seventy dollars. From 1836 to 1848, this piece of land was worth nothing, except as a deposit of muck to increase the compost heap. The annual crop of hay would not pay the cost of harvesting. And now, from your personal inspection of this reclaimed meadow, I think you will agree with me in saying, that for pleasantness of location and convenience of access to my buildings, it can hardly be exceeded; and that at two hundred dollars per acre, which it will now sell for, it would be a better investment under good management hereafter, than any of our eight per cent Railroad Stocks.

HORSE SHOEING.

MR. EDITOR:—I am glad to see that the all-important subject of horse shoeing, is again brought forward. I have travelled through all New England, besides most of the other States of the Union, and held conversation with a large number of smiths upon the subject of horse shoeing; and never did I receive a satisfactory answer to the question, why do you dish your horse shoes except where there is a flat hoof? which is not the case with one horse in fifty. The concave or convex of a shoe, has every thing to do, in causing the horse to travel with comfort and ease. The wild horse is not cramped with a shoe, and is never lame from being hoof-bound; if it were so, it would be evident that He, who pronounced all good, had made one mistake. Now, in all candor, what impression does the horse's hoof receive from treading upon the ground without a shoe? I answer, convex, which spreads the hoof from heel to toe; to be sure a large share of the weight of the horse comes upon the lower edge, or rim, where the earth is hard, but where it is soft, has still more a tendency to spread and enlarge the hoof.

If you cut off my horse's toes, they will grow out again; and if you put on one small a shoe, the hoof will grow over it: if too heavy, it will soon grow lighter; if too thin, it will soon be worn out, and come off; if you dish it, from that moment you begin to cripple him. Although it may hardly be perceived by the most strict observer, yet the horny shell of the hoof is drawing nearer the coffle-bone, diminishing the size and strength of the cords, muscles, &c., to prepare him for a foundered horse, as some call them. Whoever advocates this, had better spend more of their time in studying Nature's laws.

As we have domesticated the horse, and put him upon the hard road, and oftentimes think he must travel with the speed of the engine, at least we ought to give him a well balanced shoe. If the toe is too heavy, he must stumble or strain his nerves to go clear; perhaps seem to forget that the shoe does not continue all round, a space is left behind; therefore it should be thinned at the toe, to throw the required weight towards the heel. Here I would say, that I do not advocate a high heel shoe. As the shoe is balanced, we give him the natural size of the hoof, not over heavy for the carriage, with but little heel or toe piece; but for drawing, something of a short calk, which will aid him in holding his load; and however well he may be shod, the shoes should be re-set once a month, at least, in the warm season of the year; they will better go ten weeks in winter.

MR. J. RUSSELL SPALDING,

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Pencils,	Suspenders,
Corn Plasters,	Court Plaster,
Cupping Glasses,	Needle Cases,
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Instruments,	Pearl Powder,
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Rose Powder,	Tooth Wash,
Hair Powder,	Tooth Brushes,
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IMPORTED FROM THE FIRST ENGLISH AND FRENCH MANUFACTORIES.

HAIR BRUSHES.

WITH Shell, Buffalo, Horn, Ivory, and Rosewood backs, from 12, 14, 16, 17, 20, 22, 24, to 30 rows each.

TEETH BRUSHES, WARRANTED.

From 6, 9, 10, 12, 15, 20, 22, 25, to 30 rows each.
Oil Brushes, from 12 to 24 rows each.
Shaving do. " 6 to 12 " "
Clothes do. " 17, 25 to 30 " "

NAIL BRUSHES.

From 12, 17, 18, 24, 25, to 30 rows each.

FLESH BRUSHES.

From 31, 50 to 75 cents each.

IVORY, SHELL, and HORN COMBS, Dressing and Fine Combs. The above are imported in large quantities and will be sold at the lowest Foreign prices by

J. RUSSELL SPALDING,
Apothecary, 21 TREMONT ROW, opposite Boston Museum.

11—eopit

COMMISSION AND FORWARDING HOUSE.
NEW ORLEANS.

WE offer our services for the sale of all descriptions of Merchandise, with or without advances, and our charges for the same will be limited to having all goods insured, and we shall give particular attention to the prompt forwarding of the same to their destination, unless there remain in store over one month. We will also attend to the collection of Accounts, Notes, &c., and our connection for the last ten years with the business community will, we trust, give us an extensive share of the business, both consignment and purchase, that may be transacted through the instrumentality of merchants in these parts. The principal merchants in this city will be kindly permitted to refer to.

Below will be found our Tariff of Charges.

WM. L. CUSHING & CO., No. 38 Commerce st.
Refer to Messrs. Harding, Curtis & Co., Messrs. Sam'l Hunt & Son, Boston.

TARIFF OF CHARGES, &c.
RECEIVING AND FORWARDING.

Sugar, Molasses and Iodine,	
per hhd. or tierce,	25
Coffee, per bag,	10
Cotton, per bale,	25
Lead, per pig or bar,	10
Saltpetre, per blind,	12½
Bagging and Rope,	10
Other Bottles,	4
Refined Candy,	4
Cheese, Sausages,	4
Bale Rope,	4
Cigars, per M.	50
Paper Rolls,	4
Cartridge Paper,	4
Flasks,	4
Demijohns,	4
Instruments,	4
Drugs,	4
Paints,	4
Oils,	4
Turpentine, per blind,	12½
Lard, per keg,	4
Butter, per firkin,	4
Lard, per bbl.	4
Lard, per keg,	4
Candles, per box,	4
Cotton, Wool, Rosin, Glass,	
Earthen and Hardware, per	
ton,	12 to 25

All Specification of Merchandise not included in above will be charged as per Tariff adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Commerce.

Drayage and Storage on Consignment Goods will be charged as per Tariff adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Collection in Exchange, per cent.

Do. do. when suit is brought, 3 per cent.
Do. do. when suit is decided, 5 per cent.
Charge for Collection of notes after given, 2½ per cent.

*** No sales guaranteed unless positive orders are given, 2½ per cent. commissions to be made.

25—

PURE JUICE OF THE GRAPE,
FOR THE COMMUNION.

I HAVE received a fresh supply of this article. Specimens of the same have been analyzed by Dr. Fyfe, Hayes, and pronounced pure, genuine, and free from all fermentation. I confidently recommend it to the public, and to the churches, as the best wine for sacramental occasions. Sold, Store, and Office, 3 Cornhill.

JOHN LITTLE.

CONCENTRATED GRAPE JUICE.

THIS article is warranted to be the Genuine Concentrated Juice of the Vine, which is selected by an experienced wine maker from the choicest vineyards in Catawba county, North Carolina.

Ashburnham, by Messrs. Gaskill & Frost, is the Juice of the Sa-ka-ta-ka Grape, and is highly recommended for Communion service. Price $1 50.

For sale, a large assortment of WEST INDIA GOODS and GROCERIES, by wholesale and retail.

JOHN GALLERY & SON,
186 Tremont, corner Broomfield st.

21—3m

NEW ERA
FOR WOODWORTH'S YOUTH'S CABINET.
GREAT REDUCTION OF POSTAGE.

FROM and after the first day of July, 1851, the Postage on Woodworth's Youth's Cabinet, for any distance within 300 miles, (over 4 quarters of the year) will be only 2 cents per annum—if more than 300 miles, 3 cents per annum—if paid quarterly, 1 cent per number. Now is the time to subscribe, and as the above improvements, commence a new era for Agents, and Subscribers. Specimens sent free.

The Cabinet is unquestionably the best Youth's Magazine in America. *Boston Transcript.*

Money may be sent by mail, at the publisher's risk. Price $1 a year; 5 for $4; 10 for $7.

BOUND VOLUMES.—Five volumes are now published, and neatly bound in cloth. Price $1 25 in either style.

POSTAGE FREE.—In order to prevent the swindling at a distance which makes this liberal proposition necessary, the following notice will be sent from time to time:

AGENTS WANTED.—To travel in different parts of the Union to collect subscriptions. Specimens of the bound volumes. A liberal commission will be given to those who apply soon. Postmasters, Clergymen, Editors, and School Committees, and others who may be willing to obtain subscribers, will be furnished with specimens when the full price is ordered.

D. A. WOODWORTH, Publisher,
26—4t 128 Fulton street, New York.

DAGUERREOTYPES.

MR. J. STONE, No. 31 Tremont Row, respectfully informs the Ladies and Gentlemen of Boston and vicinity, that he has taken rooms at No. 82 Washington street, and will be pleased to furnish them with Likenesses, unsurpassed by any.

He has a very large, oblique sky light, so admitting the rays of light from the top, and from the side, that the operator can throw the features and eyes in the most desirable light and shading, thereby producing the most beautiful likenesses. With our excellent Apparatus we can obtain pictures, single or in groups, as well as can be found in any establishment in the country. Those who call and examine our specimens before sitting elsewhere, will be satisfied.

STONE & CO.
G. W. STONE.

Boston, May, 1851. 22

HOUSE FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—in Framingham Centre, a genteel, two story, modern house, and in perfect order; with a convenient stable attached. Also, one of the best of land, covered with choice fruit trees. The whole is in a pleasant, healthy location, within a few minutes' walk of four churches, post office, stores, &c.

RING, PORTER & CO.
WHEELER, Esq., Framingham, and J. W. OLMSTEAD, at the office of

Framingham, May 9, 1851. 22—tf

GENERAL JOB PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.
TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS AND BUSINESS MEN.

WM. H. HUTCHINSON,
Xylographic Printer,
CARD & FANCY JOB PRINTER, AND ENGRAVER,
OFFICE, 210 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON.

Nearly opposite Marlboro' Hotel.

The public are invited to examine specimens of beautiful work comprising Tags, Cards, Bonnet, Cigar Box, Perfumers', Druggists', and other labels, (in colors) Bond Tickets, &c. &c. Compliments, Orders from the country answered, and patronage respectfully solicited. Address, Marriage and other Cards engraved and printed. Seals, Envelopes, and Note Paper embossed. Self-sealing Envelopes printed to order. 15—

I, 2, 3, & 4 GERRISH BLOCK,
Corner of Blackstone and Ann Streets.

WETHERBEE & LELAND,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN
READY MADE CLOTHING,

WOULD respectfully inform their customers and the Trade in general, that they are now ready to exhibit and offer for sale an SPLENDID ASSORTMENT of

SPRING AND SUMMER CLOTHING,

adapted to the New England Trade, and all sections of the Country. Our Manufacturing and Jobbing Departments being greatly enlarged, and filled with New and Fresh Stock of every description of CLOTHING, we are prepared to offer

MERCHANTS AND TRADERS

Will find it for their advantage to call and examine our IMMENSE STOCK, before making their selections elsewhere.

BOYS' CLOTHING
—AND—
Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods,

Of every description, constantly on hand.

CUSTOM WORK

Made after the latest styles, and on the shortest notice.

A. WETHERBEE,
12—3m E. LELAND.

F. A. JONES & CO.,
1 & 2 TREMONT ROW.

ARE now prepared to exhibit to purchasers one of the largest and best assortments of

Dry Goods

ever offered in this city—comprising all the newest and most FASHIONABLE STYLES, together with many "Auction Bargains," which can be sold at about one-half the cost of importation. We are within a few days of the Dissolution of the Firm, and shall make no further investments in Goods, but continue the business of Jobbing and Small Profits," which has proved so well known to the GAINS. By giving us a call you will be benefitted.

THE PLACE FOR BARGAINS.

RETAIL TRADE.

we are able to know the wants of customers, and to supply them, and on examination, candid judgment will be convinced that the

MOST ADVANTAGEOUS PLACE

TO SELECT FROM

SILKS, SHAWLS AND DRESS GOODS,

IS AT 1 & 2 TREMONT ROW.

F. A. JONES & CO.
Nearly opposite the head of Hanover street.

21—2mos

OAK HALL!
THE PIONEER CLOTHING HOUSE.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

LARGE SALES AND SMALL PROFITS.

Men's and Boys' Clothing & Furnishing Goods.

THE Stock of this far-famed Establishment will be offered, for a short time, at

GREAT BARGAINS!

To make room for the introduction of a complete assortment of

BROADCLOTHS, CASSIMERES, DOESKINS, VESTINGS, &c., &c.,

Of every variety, and of the best fabric, comprising MANY CHOICE PATTERNS, NOT TO BE FOUND ELSEWHERE. Nothing will be made to order at short notice, and entire satisfaction warranted.

Particular attention is devoted to the

BOYS' DEPARTMENT,

Where every variety of clothing may be found, and every facility afforded in the selection of Garments for BOYS AND YOUTH.

GENTLEMEN'S AND YOUTH'S FURNISHING GOODS,

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

The old friends and patrons of OAK HALL, in this particular, are invited to call and examine our IMMENSE STOCK, which is still kept a complete outfit, at BARGAINS well worthy their attention.

REMEMBER OAK HALL,
Nos. 34, 36 and 38 Ann st.

20—tf

GRAFTON & CO.,
IMPORTERS OF MEN'S FURNISHING GOODS,

HAVE on hand and are constantly receiving by arrivals from France and England every desirable style of Men's Furnishing Goods, Under Clothing, Hosiery, Gloves, Fancy Scarfs, Pocket